



**HANDS & WORDS ARE NOT FOR HURTING
PROCLAMATION**



WHEREAS a world without abuse and violence is a dream we all share; and

WHEREAS we acknowledge that any form of mistreatment of another is abuse; and

WHEREAS abuse can be in the form of verbal, mental, or physical and often escalates to further violence; and

WHEREAS we believe that all people have the right to live free of abuse and violence; and

WHEREAS we believe that every person can make a difference in stopping abuse and violence by not using violence to control others, by not tolerating any form of abuse from others, and by developing healthy relationships at every age and in all circumstances based on respect and equality; and

WHEREAS self-harm and suicide must be acknowledged as a serious public health crisis as numbers of victims continue to escalate in children, teens, and adults; and

WHEREAS we recognize and support the efforts of district staff and our community in promoting respect and equality for all people, teaching conflict resolution behaviors, and helping students learn how to stop abusive cycles; and

WHEREAS we recognize the Hands & Words Are Not For Hurting Project's Purple Hands Pledge® is an effective tool in abuse, violence, self-harm, and suicide prevention education;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of Salem-Keizer Public Schools proclaims October 15-21, 2023, to be the 26th Annual National Hands & Words are Not For Hurting Week in the Salem-Keizer Public Schools.

We call upon our community to observe October 15-21 as the Hands & Words Are Not For Hurting Week and encourage everyone in the community to take the Purple Hands Pledge®:

"I Will Not Use My Hands Or My Words For Hurting Myself Or Others."®

Karina Guzmán Ortiz, Chairperson
Salem-Keizer Public Schools Board of Directors

10/10/2023
Date