



Sun Prairie Area School District

Futures depend on us...every child, every day.

Proclamation In Support of Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April 2024

WHEREAS, nationally one in three women and one in four men will experience some form of sexual assault in their lifetime; and one in two transgender and nonbinary individuals will experience some form of sexual assault in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2021 Dane County Youth Assessment, 6.1% of all high school youth, 10.1% of all high school youth who identify as female, and 16.0% of high school youth who identify as lesbian/gay/bi-sexual/transgender/questioning report that they have been physically or verbally forced to participate in sexual activity in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing sexual violence through prevention education, increased awareness, and holding perpetrators who commit acts of violence responsible for their actions; and

WHEREAS, we must work together to educate our community about what can be done to prevent sexual assault and how to support survivors; and

WHEREAS, anyone can be a leader in preventing and ending sexual violence. As employers, educators, parents/caregivers, and friends, we all have an obligation to uphold the basic principle that every individual should be free from violence and fear; and

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month draws attention to the fact that this crime occurs far too frequently, goes unreported far too often, and leaves long lasting physical and emotional scars; and

WHEREAS, during Sexual Assault Awareness Month, we recommit ourselves to lifting the veil of secrecy and shame surrounding sexual violence, expanding support for victims, and strengthening our response; and

WHEREAS, we encourage every person to start conversations about what sexual violence is, take action to prevent it, take action to help survivors connect with services, and to speak out against harmful attitudes and actions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sun Prairie Area School District Board of Education hereby proclaims the month of April 2024 to be **Sexual Assault Awareness Month**, and asks that our community work to keep our community members safe from this crime, and to stand together with survivors and victims of sexual assault.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Proclamation was duly passed by the Board of Education of the Sun Prairie Area School District on the 11th of March, 2024.



Diana McFarland, President
on behalf of Board of Education

Latoya Holiday, Vice President

Lisa Goldsberry, Clerk/Treasurer

Alwyn Foster, Member

Bryn Horton, Member

Katey Kamoku, Member

Dr. Steve Schroeder, Member

Eli Gillitzer, Student Member

Jojo Knauss, Student Member

Mrinank Panda, Student Member

Isabella Roberts, Student Member