



## LGBTQ2SIA+ PRIDE MONTH PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS** the celebration of Pride Month started in response to the Stonewall Uprising in June of 1969 and the following challenges and triumphs and is celebrated annually as we continue to advocate for equal rights for the LGBTQ2SIA+ community; and

**WHEREAS** it is important to be inclusive of the LGBTQ2SIA+ community, which includes individuals from all demographics and backgrounds, and acknowledge intersectionality to support our LGBTQ2SIA+ K-12 students and staff; and

**WHEREAS** our K-12 students, staff, and extended community benefit from LGBTQ2SIA+ voices and stories being amplified and heard; and

**WHEREAS** in order to recognize unique obstacles that the LGBTQ2SIA+ community navigates and to provide support, the district is implementing policies and procedures to improve inclusion and access for our K-12 students and staff; and

**WHEREAS** those obstacles LGBTQ2SIA+ youth face include but are not limited to higher rates of bullying, violence and harassment, higher rates of attempting suicide, increased likelihood to be unhoused, experiencing discriminatory policies, and less access to safe spaces; and

**WHEREAS** Gender Sexuality Alliance (GSA) clubs act to support LGBTQ2SIA+ youth in schools—and are supported by our district and protected by federal and Oregon state law—whether socially or to enact change at their schools, such as promoting LGBTQ2SIA+ inclusivity and education or creating gender-affirming spaces; and

**WHEREAS** when our schools are affirming and inclusive spaces for LGBTQ2SIA+ youth, they report an increased sense of belonging; and

**WHEREAS** teachers and staff will be supported as they affirm LGBTQ2SIA+ K-12 students, staff, and extended community; and

**WHEREAS** LGBTQ2SIA+ K-12 students and staff will be able to express themselves authentically and be celebrated for who they are; and

**WHEREAS** LGBTQ2SIA+ pride is to be celebrated year-round, and in the month of June we encourage schools, teachers and staff to display uplifting LGBTQ2SIA+ symbols and images inside and/or outside their buildings and classrooms, such as posters, stickers, and flags, with the goal of promoting respect for the LGBTQ2SIA+ community; and

**WHEREAS** the school board is committed to creating an affirming and inclusive school district for all of our LGBTQ2SIA+ K-12 students and staff;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Salem-Keizer Public Schools Board of Directors proclaims June 2024 to be LGBTQ2SIA+ Pride Month and urges our community to join us in celebrating our LGBTQ2SIA+ K-12 students and staff.

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

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June 11, 2024  
Date