

Orange County Schools

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Orange County Board of Education Resolution to Honor and Recognize the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Whereas, The Orange County School System strives to be a center for culturally diverse learning where all students are educated to their fullest potential and as a center of our community around which we come together in support of the education of all students; and

Whereas, Equity is critical to the success of our schools, our students, and our community; and

Whereas, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. envisioned an excellent education for all children; and

Whereas, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. committed his life to justice, peace, equality and service for the purpose of a greater good; and

Whereas, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s ideas, achievements and impacts are global; and

Whereas, the third Monday in January, a national holiday since 1983, is known as a day of service in which to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Legacy;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Orange County Board of Education hereby:

Affirms that Orange County Schools shall challenge intolerant behavior that jeopardizes the safety, wellbeing, or learning of others;

Affirms that equity of educational opportunity requires that proactive steps be taken to address implicit biases and institutional barriers to equity;

Affirms that Orange County Schools recognizes that biases and barriers can result in inequitable opportunities for groups of students based on their real or perceived personal characteristics such as race, color, ethnicity, national origin, language, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity,

gender expression, age, or socioeconomic status;

Affirms that biases and barriers that contribute to achievement gaps which are unacceptable in a system that strives for equitable educational opportunities for all students must be removed. Historically and currently, in Orange County Schools, such biases and barriers disproportionately affect students of color;

The Orange County Board of Education is committed to actively and continuously eliminating disparities in educational opportunities in all its schools, creating and supporting an environment of equitable, unbiased and culturally responsive learning in a fair and safe system.

Adopted this the 13th day of January 2020.

Chair

Orange County Schools

Superintendent

Orange County Schools