



**ORANGE COUNTY SCHOOLS**  
**FIRST CHOICE FOR FAMILIES**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY**  
**APRIL 16, 2018**

WHEREAS, the basic life needs of children, including feeling physically secure and protected, must be met for them to succeed in school and life;

WHEREAS, a vibrant, enriching and respectful school culture, where all students feel a sense of belonging and connection, is essential to school safety;

WHEREAS, Orange County Schools believes both the physical and mental well-being of our students and employees is critical to their ability to thrive;

WHEREAS, Orange County Schools has prioritized improving health supports and safety precautions to prevent gun violence and other acts of violence from occurring on campus;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, the Orange County Schools Board of Education urges the North Carolina General Assembly, the United States Congress, Governor Cooper, and President Trump to provide greater and sustained resources for locally determined programs that are critical to school safety, such as school resource officers, school counseling, emergency preparedness and response training and a comprehensive resource guide on available state and federal resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, the Orange County Schools Board of Education urges greater and sustained state and federal resources that expand access to mental health services and support comprehensive wrap-around services to schools that include a range of community resources to address safety and intervention.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, the Orange County Schools Board of Education reaffirms the purpose of the Gun-Free School Zones Act to ensure the safety of our nation's schoolchildren.

*Note: The Gun-Free Schools Act requires schools to have a zero-tolerance policy for guns as a condition of receiving Elementary and Secondary Education Act Funds. Schools must adopt a policy mandating a one year expulsion for students who bring firearms to school. Exceptions are allowed on a case-by-case basis.*

Dr. Stephen Halkiotis, Chair  
Orange County Board of Education

Mr. Tony McKnight, Vice Chair  
Orange County Board of Education