

Resolution No. 2024-25-18 in Support of Students and Families in The Santa Barbara Unified School District

WHEREAS, The Santa Barbara Unified School District Board of Education believes that the dignity, inclusion and respect of all children and families in our district is critical to students being able to achieve and thrive. In response to community concerns, the Board seeks to reaffirm its commitment to Resolution No. 2016/2017-22, "In Support of All Students," and Resolution No. 2022-23-21, "The Respectful Treatment of All Persons;" and

WHEREAS, the district believes in the humanity of all persons above the national rhetoric that is currently prevailing in our country and causing fear that harms our migrant families and LGBTQ+ families. And furthermore, the district stands for the professional responsibility for the safety and care of all children entrusted to us by our families and community; and

WHEREAS, State law guarantees all children in California the right to a free K-12 public education. SBUSD aims to provide safe and welcoming spaces for students and families, regardless of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, ancestry, language, disability status, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, religion, marital status, and ability; and

WHEREAS, our ongoing commitment to our community's children is that schools are a place where words and actions uplift and value the identity and experiences of all children and do not cause harm. A place where each day provides them the opportunity to work with other students and adults so that each one of them can continue to mature and develop into outstanding leaders and contributors to the community. A place where they are cared for by adults and peers who listen to their needs, understand who they are, and support who they want to become; and

WHEREAS, as a school district community, we stand together and continually work to create a positive culture where every person is respected and valued: an environment where rich dialogue is encouraged amongst our students, families and staff, and in which the discourse does not cause harm, but instead leads to actions that address harmful language and actions and its impacts; our commitment to ALL of our students, and our students can depend on district staff to model and maintain an environment where they can flourish; and

WHEREAS, as a board, we invite parents, neighbors, elected officials, non-profit partners and those committed to supporting our community's children as we continue to work collaboratively to align our resources to support with legal, social and educational opportunities.

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that as a school district, we reaffirm our promise to welcome and support students and families from all backgrounds and will protect the confidentiality of information we have about our students and families, and will keep immigration authorities off our campuses to the fullest extent provided by law.

RESOLVED FURTHER that the District will partner with local organizations that serve undocumented students and families for information sessions, resources, advocacy, and other relevant professional services.

RESOLVED FURTHER that SB Unified will ensure the inclusion of LGBTQ+ representation in the curriculum, ally/ Gender Sexuality Alliance clubs at the secondary level, provide resources for students and families, and training for staff on gender inclusivity and available community resources.

RESOLVED FURTHER that all students and staff will be held accountable to District Policy for harmful language and actions against any and all protected classes, without exception.

ADOPTED, APPROVED and SIGNED by the Board of Education of the Santa Barbara Unified School District on the 10 day of December, 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABSENT: _____

President of the Board of Education of the
Santa Barbara Unified School District

Attested to:

Clerk of the Board of Education of the
Santa Barbara Unified School District