

SAN DIEGUITO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Resolution to Support Student Safety and Prevent School Violence

WHEREAS, our public schools are charged not only with supporting student achievement, but also providing a foundation for mental and physical health, personal growth and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, student safety is a prerequisite for consistently high levels of academic and social development; and

WHEREAS, senseless and tragic mass shootings at places such as schools, colleges, and universities; movie theatres; music festivals; hospitals and medical clinics; shopping malls; and religious institutions have highlighted the dangers of and clearly demonstrates that gun-related violence can occur any place at any time; and

WHEREAS, gun violence on school campuses, while relatively rare, represents a particularly egregious and unacceptable threat to the lives of students, teachers and staff across the country; and

WHEREAS, community violence negatively impacts learning, health, and behavior, interferes with the ability of students to succeed in school and in life; and

WHEREAS, the crisis of gun violence in our country necessitates a sustained, coordinated, and collaborative effort involving entire communities, elected officials at every level of government, law enforcement, and the entire criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, since the Columbine High School shooting in 1999 and the Sandy Hook Massacre in 2012, there have been more than 200 school shootings nationwide shattering communities and leaving emotional scars; and

WHEREAS, safe schools provide an environment where teaching and learning can flourish; disruptions are minimized; violence, bullying and fear are absent; students are not discriminated against; expectations for behavior are clearly communicated and standards of behavior are maintained; and consequences for infractions are consistently and fairly applied; and

WHEREAS, all students, regardless of background, deserve access to services that support and enhance their physical, mental and emotional health; and

WHEREAS, the San Dieguito Union High School District Board of Trustees has adopted policies and implemented practices to support the rights of students and staff to attend schools that are safe and free from violence and harassment, especially life-threatening forms of violence; and

WHEREAS, the most effective approach to creating safe school environments is a comprehensive, coordinated effort including schoolwide, districtwide and communitywide strategies supplemented with legislation, resources and support at the state and federal legislation level; and

WHEREAS, elected officials must commit to closing gaps in the current patchwork of regulation, including those gaps that enable felons, people convicted of domestic violence, children, those found to be a danger to themselves or others, and other prohibited persons to access firearms, and those that allow the trafficking of illegal guns.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Dieguito Union High School District will continue to work with a broad spectrum of local community stakeholders, local law enforcement, mental health professionals, parents, students, teachers and staff to take any threats of violence seriously and to develop, implement and monitor policies and programs that foster and support a positive school climate, free from harassment and violence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Dieguito Union High School District urges the State of California and the United States Congress to invest in wraparound services to prevent bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence in our schools and to provide funding for programs and staff such as counselors, social workers, and psychologists, that support students' mental, physical and emotional health.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Dieguito Union High School District urges the United States Congress to pass specific legislation that reduces the risk and severity of gun violence on school campuses and repeals the prohibition against data collection and research on gun violence by the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC).

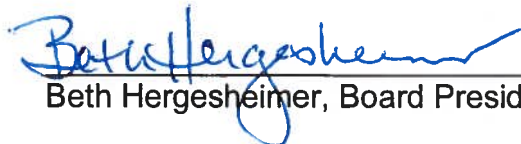
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Dieguito Union High School District urges the State of California and the United States Congress to implement commonsense measures that prioritize student safety and environments where all students have the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that strict controls include not only comprehensive and thorough background checks of all purchases of firearms, including curios and relics; dangerous weapons; and ammunition; and include the purchase of those items facilitated through the internet and at gun shows; but also an outright ban on semi-automatic firearms, high-capacity magazines, armor-piercing ammunition, bump stocks, and any other equipment, alteration, or modification that would increase a firearm's capacity for ammunition or rate of fire; an increase in the age to purchase a weapon from 18 to 21; as well as reasonable waiting periods and mandated training in the safe use of guns.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Dieguito Union High School District will transmit copies of this resolution to federal and state elected officials to demand those officials take immediate action to enact meaningful legislation to enhance safety and prevent violence at schools.

San Dieguito Union High School District Board of Trustees adopted the aforementioned resolution this 15th day of March, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES: Dalessandro, Hergesheimer, Herman, Salazar
NOES: Muir
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None


Beth Hergesheimer, Board President