

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 19-20-48

**PROCLAIMING THAT BLACK LIVES MATTER
AND CALLING FOR A COMMITMENT TO CREATING
AN UNBIASED AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY THROUGH EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, the Irvine Unified School District is a TK-12 school district located in the City of Irvine, County of Orange, with a total enrollment of more than 36,000 students; and

WHEREAS, public schools have a positive impact every day on the lives of countless students; dedicated school board members and school district employees who work countless hours to provide for the needs of learners of all ages and backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, the Irvine Unified School District Board of Education believes that racism and racial injustice have no place in our society and is distraught by the continued stream of casualties and abuse seen throughout the nation and is saddened for the families who have been destroyed and the loved ones lost. Racial injustice has disproportionately impacted African-American and Black lives; and

WHEREAS, throughout our nation's history, institutional and structural racism and injustice have led to deepening racial disparities across all sectors of society and have lasting negative consequences for our communities, cities, and nation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is committed to maintaining a safe, positive school environment where all students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members are treated with respect and dignity; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education believes that the District's diverse community of students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members is integral to the success of the District's vision, mission, and goals and that racism and racial injustice are in direct opposition to the District's critical work of providing students with the highest quality educational experience we can envision; and

WHEREAS, addressing the needs of the most marginalized learners requires recognition of the inherent value of diversity and acknowledgement that educational excellence requires a commitment to equity in the opportunities provided to students and the resulting outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the Irvine Unified School District has focused on equity and access for all students with an intense focus on under-represented populations by way of implementing initiatives that promote increased access to rigorous course work for under-represented students, imbed academic and social emotional supports, integration of the principles of restorative justice, and utilization of Professional Learning Communities and student shadowing as vehicles to build capacity in our staff to understand and respond to student needs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Irvine Unified School District Board of Education stands strongly among our Black students, staff, families, and community and vows to reflect upon its policies, values, goals, and missions to ensure its commitment to all, and to creating an unbiased and inclusive society free of discrimination, harassment and negative stereotyping toward any person or group through education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education vows to work to proactively identify class and cultural biases as well as practices, policies, and institutional barriers that may negatively influence student learning, perpetuate achievement gaps, and impede equal access to opportunities for all students in order to eradicate institutional bias of any kind, including implicit or unintentional biases and prejudices that affect student achievement, and to eliminate disparities in educational outcomes for students from historically underserved and under-represented populations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education vows to make decisions with a deliberate awareness of impediments to learning faced by students of color and/or diverse cultural, linguistic, or socio-economic backgrounds; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Board of Education believes that it is incumbent upon the District, to educate our students and community about racism and racial injustice and is committed to continuing to examine coursework and professional trainings in the spirit of continuous improvement and that this work must be done not just in times of acute awareness.

ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Irvine Unified School District this 23rd day of June, 2020.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

State of California)
) ss.
County of Orange)

I, _____, Clerk of the Board of Education of the Irvine Unified School District of Orange County, California, hereby certify that the above and foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted by the said Board at a regular meeting thereof held on the 23rd day of June, 2020 and passed by a _____ vote of said Board.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 23rd day of June, 2020.

Clerk of the Board of Education