

RESOLUTION NO. R25-07

Sunnyvale School District

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUESTIONING, INTERSEX, ASEXUAL (LGBTQIA+) PRIDE MONTH AND COMING OUT DAY

WHEREAS, June is nationally recognized as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual (LGBTQIA+) Pride Month. Pride Month is celebrated in June in honor of the 1969 Stonewall riots and highlights the work to achieve equal justice and equal opportunity for LGBTQIA+ Americans; and,

WHEREAS, Harvey Milk was the first openly gay elected official in the history of California and, at the time of his death, the most recognized political advocate for LGBTQ rights in the United States. His election to office in the United States marked an important moment for LGBTQ political representation, inspiring countless LGBTQIA+ people to follow in his footsteps. California recognizes Harvey Milk Day on May 22nd; and

WHEREAS communities today are undergoing rapid cultural and political change around the treatment of sexual minorities and gender diversity; and,

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2020, in a landmark decision for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) persons, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that employment discrimination based on a person's sexual orientation or gender identity violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and thus is illegal; and,

WHEREAS, federal and local policies and practices are increasingly acknowledging and focusing on LGBTQIA+ youth, and numerous national advocacy and other organizations are giving greater attention to LGBTQIA+ youth in their work. Acceptance and support for all youth, including those who are LGBTQIA+, make communities and schools safer places; and,

WHEREAS, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, intersex, and asexual youth in California experience higher rates of poor emotional health, substance use, and school absences compared with their straight-identified youth. Santa Clara County reported 2,426, or 7% of students who identify as LGBTQIA+, on the available Project Cornerstone survey (2017). Of this student group, only 11% reported feeling valued by their communities. These young people are reported as three times more likely to attempt suicide; and,

WHEREAS, lack of acceptance and affirmation increases mental health risks. [One survey\[1\]](#) found that 28 percent of transgender youth whose pronouns are not affirmed attempted suicide in the past year. That number decreased to 12 percent for those whose pronouns are affirmed by all or most people in their lives; and,

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) national [Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance\[2\]](#) results released in 2019, 43% of transgender youth have been bullied on school property. 29% of transgender youth, 21% of gay and lesbian youth, and 22% of bisexual youth have attempted suicide; and,

WHEREAS, researchers estimate that [20% of youth in the juvenile justice system\[3\]](#) are lesbian, gay, bisexual, questioning, gender nonconforming, or transgender compared with 4-6% of youth in the general population. The same research shows that 40% of girls (who were assigned female at birth) in the juvenile justice system identify as LBQ and/or gender nonconforming; and,

WHEREAS, according to The National Center for Transgender Equality, one in five transgender people in the United States has experienced discrimination when seeking a home, and more than one in ten have been evicted from their homes because of their gender identity. Family rejection and discrimination, and violence have contributed to a large number of transgender and other LGBTQIA+-identified youth who are homeless in the United States – an estimated 20-40% of the more than 1.6 million homeless youth; and,

WHEREAS, state law under the FAIR Education Act, Senate Bill 48, requires that California K-12 schools provide Fair, Accurate, Inclusive, and Respectful (FAIR) representations of people with disabilities and people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender in our curricula, and the inclusions of LGBTQIA+ history in kindergarten through 12-grade education; and,

WHEREAS, the Sunnyvale School District (SSD) supports LGBTQIA+ youth and allies; and

WHEREAS, the SSD provides resources and supports for youth, educators, and families, including information on the Fair Act, Out for Safe Schools, and the use of pronouns as well as community resources; and

WHEREAS, the SSD works throughout the year to cultivate a positive environment by offering holistic support for all students through outreach to foster and homeless youth, suicide prevention, student wellness, school climate, anti-bullying, and positive behavior intervention programs; and,

WHEREAS, a commitment has been made by the SSD to demonstrate our solidarity to the LGBTQIA+ community and support of inclusive and welcoming environments for all by raising the Rainbow Pride Flag in the month of June and encouraging celebrations and supportive gestures on October 11 of each year, National Coming Out Day; and,

WHEREAS, the SSD is an institute of learning that is committed to serving, inspiring, and promoting student and public school success while lifting up equity, diversity, inclusion, and partnership; now,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the SSD will respect these celebrations throughout the year and particularly during June and on National Coming Out Day.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, SSD will recognize and celebrate all of our students, giving a sense of a celebratory and positive environment, instilling safety and trust.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the SSD will fly the distinctive flag under the National and State flags as a way to honor and show support for our students during June as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month and October 11 as National Coming Out Day for the years of 2024 and 2025.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the Sunnyvale School District, Sunnyvale, California at a public meeting thereof duly called and held on September 26th, 2024.

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSENT: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

Isabel Jubes-Flamerich, President

Eileen Le, Clerk

[1] Goldberg, S.K., & Santos T. (2021). Fact Sheet: The importance of sports participation for transgender youth. *Center for American Progress*. Retrieved from <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/fact-sheet-importance-sports-participation-transgender-youth/>

[2] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021). Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance. Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/yrbs/reports_factsheet_publications.htm

[3] Irvine, A., & Canfield, A. (2016). The overrepresentation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, questioning, gender nonconforming and transgender youth within the child welfare to juvenile justice crossover population. *Journal of Gender, Social Policy & the Law*, 24, 243-262.