

MODESTO CITY SCHOOLS

Resolution #17/18-20

SCHOOL SAFETY

WHEREAS, Modesto City Schools supports the right of students and staff to attend schools that are safe and free from violence and harassment; and

WHEREAS, providing a safe school environment that ensures both the physical and emotional safety of students and staff creates the conditions necessary to foster academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, safe schools provide an environment where teaching and learning are not distracted; disruptions are minimized; drugs, violence, bullying and fear are not present; 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, tragic events throughout our nation disrupt otherwise peaceful school settings, resulting in the loss of lives for both students and school staff members, and causing immeasurable distress and fear among students, families and staff throughout Modesto City Schools and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, even though the loss of a single life is unacceptable and school shootings are tragedies that affect the whole society, Modesto City Schools does not wish in any way to minimize their emotional and psychological impact on students, their families, and staff members. School shootings remain a relatively small percentage of the overall homicide rate affecting school-aged children; and

WHEREAS, student injury and death are statistically much greater from drug abuse, child abuse, suicide, bullying, and auto accidents; and

WHEREAS, the most effective approach to creating safe school environments requires a comprehensive, coordinated effort including schoolwide, districtwide and communitywide strategies where all institutions, organizations and individuals must accept responsibility for their critical roles and collaborate to establish a positive environment for teaching and learning; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, Modesto City Schools has completed and holds regular drills as prescribed in both school site and district emergency plans that involve all school district personnel, law enforcement, fire and medical rescue personnel, emergency management personnel and others essential to resolving any potential crisis that might occur.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, Modesto City Schools reviews school site discipline rules and procedures to ensure they are appropriately enforced and address student behavior and school safety issues. Student handbooks that explain codes of conduct, unacceptable behavior and disciplinary consequences are given to all students and parents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, Modesto City Schools will continue to work with a broad spectrum of local community stakeholders, local law enforcement, mental health professionals, parents, students, teachers and staff 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 Modesto City Schools urges the state of California to invest in, promote and support comprehensive, coordinated and collaborative strategies to prevent drug use, bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence in our schools so that all students have the opportunity to attend school, engage in the classroom and achieve academic success.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was passed and adopted at the regular meeting of the Board of Education, held on the 16th day of April 2018 by Governing Board Member Walker, who made the motion, which motion being duly seconded by West, was upon a roll call vote, carried into Resolution passed by the following vote:

AYES: Brown, Grenbeaux, Lopez, Marks, Walker, West, Neumann


NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:

DATE April 16, 2018


Craig Rydquist, Interim Secretary
Board of Education, Modesto City Schools