

ST. HELENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION #15-15
AGAINST BULLYING, HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, AND VIOLENCE

WHEREAS, St. Helena Unified School District supports the right of students and staff to attend schools that are safe and free from bullying, harassment, discrimination, and violence; 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, bullying, harassment, discrimination, and violence, and even the fear of harm, can create barriers to learning and contribute to low self-esteem, depression, anger, and, in extreme cases, school violence or suicide; and

WHEREAS, a safe school is one 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 consequences for infractions are consistently and fairly applied; and

WHEREAS, school districts and county offices of education have a responsibility to ensure a safe school environment that is free of intimidation and harassment; and

WHEREAS, the most effective approach to creating safe school environments requires a comprehensive, coordinated effort including school-wide, district-wide, and community-wide 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

WHEREAS, the Month of October is National Bullying Prevention Month, which is a campaign in response to the need to raise awareness of bullying that provides schools and communities with an opportunity to educate students, parents, and others about their role in bullying prevention;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the St. Helena Unified School District hereby supports the goals of National Bullying Prevention Month and will work with a broad spectrum of local community stakeholders, parents, students, teachers, and staff to develop, implement, and monitor policies and programs that foster and support a positive school climate free from bullying, harassment, discrimination, and violence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the St. Helena Unified School District urges the State of California to invest in, promote, and support comprehensive, coordinated, and collaborative strategies to prevent 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.

Adopted this 8th day of October, 2015, at a regular meeting, by the following vote:

AYES: Trustee Kerr, Trustee Smith, Trustee Haug, Trustee Conwell, Trustee Shantz


NOES: None

ABSENT : None

ABSTAINED: None



Maria Haug, Clerk to the Board



Jeannie Kerr, President of the Board