

PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

RESOLUTION REGARDING BLACK LIVES MATTER WEEK OF ACTION [“BLM WOA”]

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Portland Public Schools, Multnomah County, Portland, Oregon to declare that the lives of Black students matter, as well as that the lives of all our students of color matter, and that we encourage participation district-wide in the national Black Lives Matter in Schools Week of Action, hereafter referred to as the BLM WOA, starting with February 4-8, 2019.

WHEREAS, a national movement has arisen to assert that Black Lives Matter on the campuses that serve all children;

WHEREAS, schools have the potential to make positive and tangible social change in the world while teaching students to be stewards of their communities, their classrooms, their campuses and each other;

WHEREAS, our nation’s future well-being relies on a high-quality public education system that confronts systemic bias, institutionalized racism and leads the effort in ensuring that African American/Black students and families thrive on the campuses that serve them;

WHEREAS, this social movement has raised awareness about injustices that exist at the intersections of race, class, and gender; including mass incarceration, police brutality, poverty, unaffordable housing, income inequality, and poor access to healthcare;

WHEREAS, this district has a considerable opportunity, through its decision-making power, to improve the educational experience for all students; specifically, African American/Black students;

WHEREAS, there is a tremendous opportunity to teach all students about social justice, lead for equity, integrate culturally responsive practices and curriculum, and support students to become leaders in making their own schools a safer and more inclusive learning environment;

WHEREAS, School Board Policy No. 2.10.010-P states that, “rather than perpetuating disparities, Portland Public Schools must address and overcome this inequity and institutional racism, providing all students with the support and opportunity to succeed;”

WHEREAS, in support of a national movement of teachers, parents, scholars and administrators who have come together to proclaim a week of action, affirmation, and solidarity, to be called “Black Lives Matter Week of Action in Schools”;

WHEREAS, the thirteen guiding principles of the Black Lives Matter movement highlighted during this week of action are a means of challenging the insidious legacy of institutionalized racism and oppression that has plagued the United States since its founding; The thirteen guiding principles are:

1. Diversity
2. Restorative Justice
3. Globalism
4. Queer Affirming
5. Unapologetically Black
6. Collective Value
7. Empathy

8. Loving Engagement
9. Transgender Affirming
10. Black Villages
11. Black Women
12. Intergenerational
13. Black Families

WHEREAS, the purpose of the week will be to spark an ongoing movement of critical reflection and honest conversations in school communities for people of all ages to engage with critical issues of social justice;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the week will be to engage with local communities and stakeholders to create an atmosphere of inclusive dialogue around social justice issues that impact African American/Black students, families, teachers and staff;

WHEREAS, schools should be places for the practice of equity, for the building of understanding, and for the active engagement of all in creating pathways to freedom and justice for all people; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Education Association (OEA) and National Education Association (NEA) have voted to support Black Lives Matter Week of Action in Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Portland Public School District endorses and encourages teachers and students and administrators to participate, annually, in the Black Lives Matter Week of Action in Schools to be held the first week of February, beginning with February 4-9, 2019.

Director Rita Moore, Board Chair

Director Julie Esparza Brown, Vice-Chair

Director Paul Anthony

Director Scott Bailey

Director Julia Brim Edwards

Director Mike Rosen

Director Amy Kohnstamm

Student Representative, Nick Paesler



SAMPLE SCHOOL BOARD RESOLUTION

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School Board Resolution

SUPPORT FOR INCREASING OREGON PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING

WHEREAS, Oregon has one of the largest average class sizes in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Oregon has one of the lowest graduation rates in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Oregon has one of the shortest school years in the nation; and

WHEREAS, students in our public schools face challenging learning conditions due to lack of resources; and

WHEREAS, our educators and our community are doing the best they can for our students given a lack of resources; and

WHEREAS, funding for career and technical education, art, music, and physical education are limited and programs have been cut; and

WHEREAS, without change, our students will not succeed; and

WHEREAS, our students can't wait; and

WHEREAS, Oregon students deserve better, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the _____ Board of Directors will support and encourage efforts to amply fund for Oregon public schools by increasing state revenue.

Adopted by the _____ Board of Directors this day _____.

Attest: