

RESOLUTION BY THE PALMYRA BOARD OF EDUCATION AGAINST ACTS OF RACISM, DISRESPECT, VIOLENCE AND INEQUITABLE TREATMENT OF ANY PERSON

Unanimously Adopted by the Board on July 29, 2020

WHEREAS, the Palmyra Board of Education provides the leadership and general supervision of the Palmyra Public School District;

WHEREAS, the Palmyra Board of Education stands firmly against all acts of individual and systemic racism;

WHEREAS, we wish to end violence and injustices and unequivocally declare that black lives matter and that an injustice to one is an injustice to all;

WHEREAS, we recognize that discrimination, bias, and racist incidents against students harm them mentally, physically, and academically; and

WHEREAS, we believe that silence and inaction perpetuate injustice, bias, and racism;

WHEREAS, we believe that children begin their lives without hatred and bigotry, and that our school district must uphold the public's trust by fostering understanding, acceptance, respectful civic discourse, and inclusion among our students when they enter the schoolhouse doors;

WHEREAS, we believe in the ability of our schools to uplift a community of diverse ideas that recognize and celebrate all the attributes that form children and hold true to the ideal--that we are all created equal;

WHEREAS, we believe that schools are a vital part of a much larger world and need to play their very substantial role in eradicating racism;

WHEREAS, we believe that educators should be life-long learners about race and racism and should be provided the necessary resources to facilitate discussions of race and racism, to help themselves and students understand history and humanity from diverse points of view, and to challenge themselves and students to ground perceptions in facts;

WHEREAS, we believe that, as educators grow, they must continue to reflect on and amend curricula, training, policies, and systemic practices used in schools to help root out racism;

WHEREAS, we commend students when they demonstrate leadership in expressing their commitment to improving their world; and

WHEREAS, we believe that, Palmyra Board of Education must review current and proposed policies and regulations to ensure that they promote equity and aggressively discourage and disrupt practices that allow racial inequities to persist;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Palmyra Board of Education does hereby commit to stand against any and all acts of racism, disrespect, violence, and inequitable treatment of any person and to provide leadership to support the Palmyra Public School District in their efforts to help eradicate racism and to create more equitable and inclusive schools for all children.