

**EVERETT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2
RESOLUTION NO. 1158**

**Affirming our Commitment to
Safe and Inclusive Schools for Each Student**

A RESOLUTION that affirms the Board of Directors of Everett Public Schools' commitment to providing safe and inclusive schools for all students without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, marital status, age, military status, disability, or immigration status.

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has sworn to uphold the Constitutions and laws of the United States and of the State of Washington, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors recognizes that our nation's and district's diversity is one of our greatest strengths and celebrates over 90 languages and dialects spoken by the families of the 20,000 students served by our schools, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has heard reports of higher levels of student anxiety and fear due to the current national political climate, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors recognizes that our history teaches us our citizenry can overcome fear that begets hate, can uphold the rights and dignity of all members of our communities, and that we must never enable those who would act otherwise, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors recognizes this statement encompasses a body of work and philosophy developed over a century and a quarter by those who have built the Everett Public Schools, and asserts that we are a stronger, more humane and successful organization because of this work over time, and that we are steadfast and clear in our purpose and determination to defend our values and thus our students' safe access to education and educational facilities free of prejudice, hate, or violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors holds as inviolable the highest calling threaded through our nation's Declaration of Independence and Constitution that all people are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors, having adopted clear statements of mission, vision, and a set of core values for Everett Public Schools, which were created in partnership with this community and steeped in steadfast commitment to each student's success, hereby reaffirms the prominence and significance of these core values in guiding our conduct:

- *Equity*: We honor and support each student's right to learn and achieve;
- *Diversity*: We embrace diversity as an essential asset; we are inclusive and treat our differences as a core strength;
- *Collaboration*: We believe in learning and working together, the values of diverse views and the power of collective wisdom;
- *Respect*: We value differences among people and treat each other with respect;

- *Integrity:* We act in good faith, serving others with honesty and dignity. We serve as steward of the public trust;
- *Passion:* We are passionate about teaching and learning;
- *Learning:* We believe each student has the ability to learn and achieve to high standards; and

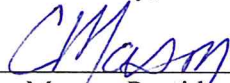
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors reemphasizes the importance of its board policies and the associated administrative procedures focused on safe schools and each student's equitable access to education, and that the Board reaffirms each and every policy aimed at establishing a safe, an inclusive, and a welcoming school environment, including the:

- Absolute prohibition of harassment, intimidation and bullying of students and staff;
- Absolute prohibition of discrimination of students and staff;
- Absolute commitment to nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education and activities;
- Expectation that all staff, students, and visitors will maintain a civil environment of mutual respect and orderly conduct free of uncivil conduct and like forms of disruptive behavior;
- Maintenance of an environment to explore controversial issues that ensures students' right to study free of prejudice and discrimination;
- Maintenance of working relationships with law enforcement and child protective agencies aimed at protecting the safety of students in Policy 4411.
- Preservation of student rights to pursue lawful religious-based activities and practices;
- Assurance that each student has equitable access to education established in its policies;
- Assurance that students have freedom of expression while maintaining orderly school conduct;

And does hereby charge the superintendent and call upon all staff, students, and visitors to ensure that values and practices embodied in this resolution be carried out in service of our community.

ADOPTED this 29th day of August, 2017, and authenticated by the signatures affixed below.

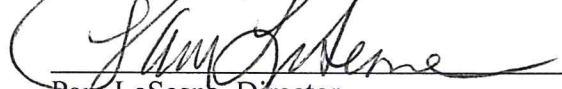
EVERETT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2
Snohomish County, Washington



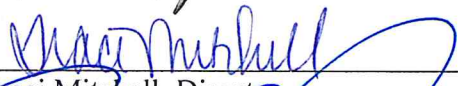
Caroline Mason, President



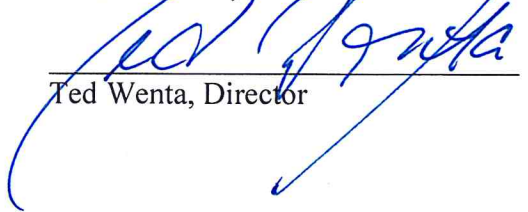
Carol Andrews, Vice President



Pam LeSesne, Director




Traci Mitchell, Director



Ted Wenta, Director

ATTESTED BY:



Gary D. Cohn
Secretary, Board of Directors