

SOUTH PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution 2016-2017-18

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ON THE
REAFFIRMATION OF A SAFE, INCLUSIVE AND NON-DISCRIMINATORY, NON-
HARASSMENT, NON-INTIMIDATION, NON-BULLYING SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT**
February 14, 2017

WHEREAS, in our South Pasadena community, we have strong and unwavering values regarding the humanity and dignity of every person, the importance of showing compassion to each other, and the right of individuals to freedom and safety; and

WHEREAS, in South Pasadena Unified School District we believe that the diversity of backgrounds, perspectives and experiences of our students and staff contributes greatly to the richness and strength of our district; and

WHEREAS, as a school district, we maintain our commitment to remaining nonpartisan on politics; however, we want to respond to the fear and anxiety some stakeholders are currently experiencing; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court held in *Plyer v. Doe* (1982) that no public school district has a basis to deny children access to education based on their immigration status, citing that children have little control over their immigration status, the harm it would inflict on the child and society itself, and equal protection rights of the 14th Amendment; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Education and the State Superintendent of Instruction urged school districts to reaffirm that schools are safe learning environments that welcome parent participation from all; and

WHEREAS, the National PTA has encouraged school districts to reaffirm publicly the inclusive values that are the foundation of safe and healthy learning environments; and

WHEREAS, the South Pasadena Unified School District is committed to maintaining a safe and inviting environment that welcomes parental involvement in their child's education; and

WHEREAS, the South Pasadena Unified School District has and continues to be committed to fostering safe, healthy and inclusive environments conducive to learning; and

WHEREAS, the South Pasadena Unified School District has and continues to be committed to protecting all rights afforded to students under federal and state law and regulations, and South Pasadena Unified School District policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, the South Pasadena Unified School District has continued commitment to cultivating an environment of acceptance, support and kindness for all; and

WHEREAS, the South Pasadena Unified School District is committed to its core values: Inclusiveness, Equity, Respect, Continuous Learning, Collaboration, Teamwork, Transparency, Integrity, Service and Accountability; and

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WHEREAS, the South Pasadena Unified School District seeks to provide a well-rounded and quality education that exposes students to diverse cultures that are critical to understanding our nation and our world, past and present, and that helps our students appreciate the histories and cultural contributions of their own communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the South Pasadena Unified School District reaffirms its commitment to provide an equitable educational opportunity and treatment for each and every student in all aspects of academics and activities without discrimination based on race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation (gender expression or identity), immigration status, socioeconomic status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability AND to fostering a safe, civil and inclusive educational environment for all students, employees, parents/legal guardians, volunteers and community members that is free from acts of violence, harassment, intimidation or bullying, including the fear of deportation.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of February, 2017, by the Governing Board of South Pasadena Unified School District.

AYES: 5 NOES: 0 ABSENT: 0

Dated this 14th day of February, 2017



Elisabeth Eilers
President of the Governing Board



Geoff Yantz, Ed.D.
Secretary of the Governing Board