

## MORAGA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Moraga, California 94556 RESOLUTION NO. 20-32 JUNE - LGBTQIA+ PRIDE MONTH

Whereas, all students should be able to attend school in a safe and inclusive environment free from discrimination, harassment, and bullying; and

Whereas, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression biased bullying is among the most common form of harassment in schools; and

Whereas, significantly higher rates of academic failure, school disengagement and school dropout among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual ("LGBTQIA+), including gender-nonconforming, students across the country are attributable in part to peer harassment, bullying, and lack of awareness and understanding of issues facing LGBTQIA+ students; and

Whereas, LGBTQIA+ students are more likely to experience a mental health condition and are at greater risk of suicide; and

Whereas, anti-harassment and anti-bullying policies that specifically mention sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression are associated with students feeling more safe, lower levels of bullying, decreased incidents of harassment related to sexual orientation, increased teacher/staff interventions, and a greater reporting of incidents; and

Whereas, education regarding LGBTQIA+ issues increases understanding and cultivates respect and acceptance for LGBTQIA+ students, staff and the LGBTQIA+ community; and

Whereas, California Education Code Section 220 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, including immigration status; and

Whereas, California Education Code Section 234 is the policy of the State of California to ensure that all local educational agencies continue to work to reduce discrimination, harassment, violence, intimidation, and bullying; and

Whereas, the mission of the Moraga School District is to provide a supportive and challenging academic environment that encourages critical and creative thinking, maximizes individual students' strengths and differences and motivates students to be culturally aware, lifelong learners and responsible citizens; and

Whereas, a core value of the Moraga School District is a commitment to embracing and valuing diversity and inclusion of all students, parents, faculty, and staff, and to create a school climate that is respectful, supportive and appreciative of all differences; and

Whereas, the Moraga School District commits to the implementation of the FAIR (Fair, Accurate, Inclusive, and Respectful) Education Act into the K-8 grade history and social science curriculum; and

Whereas, the month of June is a time to celebrate and highlight the identities and contributions of the LGBTQIA+ community and foster a dialogue to promote healthy, safe, and prosperous school climates and communities for all; and

Whereas, by recognizing Pride Month, we support Moraga School District policies, practices, and curricula that honor and respect LGBTQIA+ students, staff, their families, and the community; and

Whereas, the rainbow flag, also known as the LGBTQIA+ pride flag, serves as a symbol of LGBTQIA+ pride and social movement; and

Whereas, displaying the rainbow flag further symbolizes the District's celebration of diversity and support for LGBTQIA+ students, staff, their families, and the LGBTQIA+ community.

**Now, Therefore, be it Resolved**, that the Moraga School District declares June as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month to inspire equity, create alliances, celebrate diversity, and establish a safe environment in our schools and community for all LGBTQIA+ students, staff and community members.

**Be It Further Resolved**, that the Moraga School District Governing Board directs the Superintendent and District staff to support lessons, activities, and conversations that engage students in meaningful learning, research, and writing about our LGBTQIA+ students and families and the LGBTQIA+ community.

**Be It Further Resolved**, that the Moraga School District supports training for staff and leadership to deepen understanding of LGBTQIA+ issues and policy implementation to support LGBTQIA+ students.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Governing Board of the Moraga School District of Contra Costa County, California, on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2019.

AYES: Davis, Chng, Nickens, Severy, Giordani

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by the members of the Governing Board of the Moraga School District at the public meeting of said Board held on December 10, 2019, and the foregoing is an excerpt from the journal of said Governing Board for said meeting.

Bruce K. Burns, Secretary

Governing Board, Moraga School District

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