

MOUNT DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
RESOLUTION 19/20-68
Condemning Violence, Racism, and Injustice
and Reaffirming Equity and Humanity as Central Guiding Principles

WHEREAS the world has witnessed the brutal killing of George Floyd, a killing in which now ex-police officer Derek Chauvin smashed his knee into the neck of George Floyd for eight minutes and forty-six seconds, wherein the final two minutes and fifty three seconds Mr. Floyd was already non-responsive, and

WHEREAS the knee-on-neck manslaughter we have witnessed serves as a symbol and a metaphor for the unjust societal and systemic inequities that black people experience, where cries for help have been largely ignored, and

WHEREAS George Floyd's killing is contextualized by a poisonous cultural ideology on the basis of which Americans are tragically and regularly treated differently because of their race, and

WHEREAS the Mount Diablo Unified School District refuses to remain silent about racism and injustice, instead encouraging our students, staff and families to speak openly about institutional racism and current events, and to teach about civic actions that effectively change policy and laws in our country and

WHEREAS the Mount Diablo Unified School District fully recognizes the right of the public to protest, and that a collective voice is integral and powerful to combat racism, and

WHEREAS the Mount Diablo Unified School District also fully values all of those men and women in law enforcement who strive to do their difficult job to serve and protect with discernment and integrity every day, and

WHEREAS Mount Diablo Unified School District humbly recognizes that Board Policies 5001, 0411, and 6164.42 have hereunto defined the district's stance on equity, non-discrimination, and disproportionality, and

FURTHERMORE, WHEREAS the Mount Diablo Unified School District is committed to taking concrete steps to achieve equal opportunity and success for students of color, and recognizes its responsibility to uphold the humanity of black lives,

THEREFORE BE IT DECLARED that the Mount Diablo Unified School District Board of Education whole-heartedly condemns the killing of George Floyd, and that of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and countless other children, men, and women who had their lives cut short as a result of police brutality, vigilante aggression, and institutional and systemic racism. These names have been painfully added to the long list of Black Americans, including Emmett Till, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, Philando Castile, Trayvon Martin, Atatiana Jefferson, Alton Sterling, Michael Brown, Eric Garner, Aiyana Stanley-Jones, Tamir Rice, and Oscar Grant.

BE IT FURTHER DECLARED that the Mount Diablo Unified School District reaffirms equity and humanity as central guiding principles for district actions and policy-making as we continue in the battle for justice, a battle we indeed must face together, to create a future in which the legacy of racism, bigotry, and unequal treatment no longer poisons our society, and in which instead we achieve the ideals of equity, peace, and belonging.

AYES: NOES: ABSENCES: ABSTENTIONS:

Adopted by the Governing Board on 06/08/2020.

Brian Lawrence, Board President

Debra Mason, Board Vice President

Linda Mayo, Board Member

Joanne Durkee, Board Member

Cherise Khaund, Board Member