

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 10474 Mather Boulevard, P.O. Box 269003
 Sacramento, CA 95826-9003

<p>Subject: Resolution No. 21-01 – In Support of Equal Treatment for All</p>	<p>Agenda Item No.: VIII.G. Enclosures: 2</p>
<p>Reason: Adoption</p>	<p>From: David W. Gordon Prepared By: Tim Herrera Board Meeting Date: 03/16/21</p>

BACKGROUND:

As districts and schools in Sacramento County work tirelessly for a full return to school sites, we must reaffirm our county-wide commitment to honoring the racial, cultural, linguistic, and other diversities of the students and families we collectively serve.

We are in a unique moment in time – with the convergence of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resurgence of recent acts of explicit racism – it is more clear now than ever, that as leaders in education we have a responsibility to use our platform to underscore the importance of creating school systems that value and celebrate the diversity in our communities and fosters belonging and safety for all.

Most recently, the dangers of racism that plague our country have ignited inflammatory rhetoric specifically aimed at Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) thereby perpetuating fears, stigma, and violence. We cannot allow this behavior to persist, especially in our schools.

In conjunction with numerous efforts over the past year, such as the Black Lives Matter movement, through this Resolution the Sacramento County Board and Office of Education are proclaiming our intolerance for xenophobia, racism, and discrimination. We believe every school has the responsibility to ensure all students and families feel safe, valued, supported, and feel a sense of belonging.

An updated “Revised” version of Resolution No. 21-01 is included for the Board’s consideration.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the Board adopt Resolution No. 21-01 – In Support of Equal Treatment for All.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**RESOLUTION NO. 21-01****A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF EQUAL TREATMENT FOR ALL**

WHEREAS, racism and social inequities cause persistent discrimination and disparate outcomes in many areas of life, including education, housing, employment, and criminal justice, and that racism itself is a social determinant of health; and

WHEREAS, Black, Indigenous, and people of color have faced a long legacy of racial oppression and discrimination, rooted in systemic, socio-economic, and racial injustice that continues to grow and threatens the current and future well-being of our students of color as well as all students in our county and country;

WHEREAS, the insurrection of January 6, 2021 at our Nation's Capitol was a blatant attack on our democracy promoted in part by groups advocating racism and white supremacy.

WHEREAS, the recent inflammatory and xenophobic rhetoric toward the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community during the COVID-19 pandemic must not be tolerated: and

WHEREAS, such statements have stoked unfounded fears and perpetuated stigma about Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders which have contributed to increasing rates of bullying, harassment, acts of violence, and hate crimes against AAPI persons; and

WHEREAS, the Sacramento County Board of Education supports the inclusion and belonging of people of all national origins, cultures, ethnicities, and other diversities, guaranteeing the safety and security of all students, families, and community members; and

WHEREAS, beginning last year, the Sacramento County Office of Education launched a major initiative to intensify our work at all levels and across all departments in the organization to address educational inequity, including critically analyzing our current system, policies and practices, and recognizing more is needed to combat racism, xenophobia, and discrimination, both in our community and in our schools; and

WHEREAS, recent events underscore the need for robust and intentional Civics Education curriculum, to ensure our children are explicitly taught what it means to live, work and be educated in a democracy; and

WHEREAS, the Sacramento County Board of Education and Sacramento County Office of Education are committed to supporting all Sacramento County public schools in combating racism, xenophobia, and intolerance and will work to ensure members of all

communities — no matter their culture, ethnicity, language, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability — are treated equitably and with dignity; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sacramento County Board of Education hereby condemns racism, xenophobia and intolerance against people of all cultures, ethnicities and other diversities.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sacramento County Board of Education and Sacramento County Office of Education will strengthen efforts to support districts, schools, and educators with strategies and tools that promote anti-racism, equity, diversity and inclusion, while celebrating the rich diversities our students bring, support the prevention of bullying and harassment, increase student and community dialogue to build tolerance, understanding and healing, and identify and address systemic policies and practices that do not align to the beliefs described herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Sacramento County Board of Education on March 16, 2021.

AYES	_____	_____
NOES	_____	_____
ABSENT	_____	_____
ABSTAIN	_____	_____

Joanne Ahola, Board President

David W. Gordon, Board Secretary