

Resolution  
of the  
Board of Education  
of the  
Oakland Unified School District

Resolution No. 1718-0174

School Safety

WHEREAS, there is a need for Oakland Unified School District and the nation's major city school systems to express their positions on school safety matters that affect its students and the children residing in its cities;

WHEREAS, thousands of Oakland Unified and students from across the United States have publicly expressed concern for their safety and well-being and have indicated that policymakers should act immediately to protect them in school and beyond;

WHEREAS, the leaders in Oakland Unified respect the concerns of students, and support the growing civic and social participation of students that was inspired by recent events;

WHEREAS, since the school shooting in Columbine in 1999, there have been numerous other school shootings, including those in Red Lake (MN), Lancaster (PA), Blacksburg (VA), Chardon (OH), Cleveland (OH), Sandy Hook (CT), Broward County (FL), St. Mary's County (MD) and many others that have taken scores of young lives;

WHEREAS, youth in Oakland as well as in other major cities in the United States have been and continue to be vulnerable to gun violence within their own communities;

WHEREAS, it was reported by the Bay Area News Group in August 2013 that 21 boys and girls under the age of 18 had been killed in Oakland homicides since January 2011. Many of the victims under 8 years of age were in the safest of places: attending a sleepover, being held in their father's arms and being pushed in a stroller by their mom;

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with a gun than people in other developed countries;

WHEREAS, Americans make up about 4.4 percent of the world's population but own some 42 percent of the world's guns;

WHEREAS, assault weapons have no place in society and other types of guns are too easily obtained;

WHEREAS, teachers are not trained law enforcement officers, and should not be asked or incentivized to keep weapons accessible in their classrooms;

WHEREAS, there is no reason based on any viable research to suggest that adding guns into a school setting or arming teachers would prevent these acts of violence;

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WHEREAS, schools in Oakland Unified and across the country need considerable additional resources to plan for the possibility of such acts of violence, coordinate with law enforcement, and secure their buildings from intruders;

WHEREAS, many schools lack the mental health counselors, psychologists, and social workers they need to identify and work with students showing warning signs for depression and violence;

WHEREAS, the nation's data collection on gun violence and gun ownership is inadequate to monitor, understand, or prevent these events from happening;

WHEREAS, the multiple school shootings that the nation has witnessed over the years have complex causes requiring multiple solutions; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Great City Schools, Oakland Unified and the other Council of Great City Schools member districts stand with students across the nation in demanding effective and comprehensive action from the federal government to protect schoolchildren.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to ban the sale, purchase, possession, and use of assault weapons and large-capacity ammunition cartridges, except those required by the U.S. military and law enforcement to protect its or its allies' people and interests;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to require and strengthen universal background checks to possess any type of firearm;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education calls on the President of the United States to charge all agencies of the federal government with the task of reducing the number of gun-related injuries and deaths in the United States.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education is opposed to the arming of teachers to protect schools and children;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to extend the perimeter of Gun-Free School Zones;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to appropriate adequate new funds to allow Oakland Unified and other

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school districts across the nation to plan and coordinate (i) tiplines/helplines and (ii) school security efforts with law enforcement officials and (iii) make other building alterations, e.g., install interior locking doors, that may be necessary to protect students, teachers, and staff;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to appropriate adequate new funds to increase the numbers of trauma informed counselors, mental health staff, psychologists, restorative justice practitioners, and social workers in our schools;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to appropriate adequate new funds for programs to educate students and their families about: (i) the dangers of firearms and (ii) violence prevention in order to reduce incidences of gun violence;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education calls on all private schools and charter schools that operate in Oakland to adopt a similar resolution;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to require that states and the federal government collect the data necessary to track, monitor, understand, and prevent gun violence in the United States; and

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education directs OUSD's Superintendent to:

- (i) require that all cabinet-level leaders, school and office site leaders and front office staff to obtain and stay current on emergency preparedness training (including active shooter training) and to prepare their site staff (including substitute educators) and students with age and role-appropriate instructions and lock down/out drills as part of their annual school and office site safety plans;
- (ii) make a 24x7 staffed tipline/helpline available through Oakland Unified staff, community and/or government partners to alert mental health or law enforcement/security personnel of concerns related to someone who is in need of support or protection;
- (iii) find ways to safely secure classrooms and offices from the inside by authorized staff;
- (iv) to conduct annual reviews of compliance with school site plans and drills that are reported to the Board of Education annually; and

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- (v) establish a crisis prevention support team comprised of staff from the Superintendent's and General Counsel's office, the affected school/office site, Program for Exceptional Children, and OUSD Police, to meet as needed, to ensure that follow-up by appropriate staff is conducted in a coordinated and timely fashion.

Passed by the following vote:

PREFERENTIAL AYE: Gema Quetzal (Student Director)

PREFERENTIAL NOE: None

PREFERENTIAL ABSTENTION: Enasia Mc-Elvaine (Student Director)

PREFERENTIAL RECUSE: None

AYES: Jody London, Nina Senn, Roseann Torres, James Harris  
Vice President Jumoke Hinton Hodge, President Aimee Eng

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

RECUSE: None

ABSENT: Shanthi Gonzales

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution passed at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District held April 25, 2018.

**OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**



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Aimee Eng  
President, Board of Education



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Kyla Johnson – Trammell  
Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education

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*OUSD School Safety Resolution (3/20/18 Draft)*

WHEREAS, there is a need for Oakland Unified School District and the nation's major city school systems to express their positions on school safety matters that affect its students and the children residing in its cities;

WHEREAS, thousands of Oakland Unified and students from across the United States have publicly expressed concern for their safety and well-being and have indicated that policymakers should act immediately to protect them in school and beyond;

WHEREAS, the leaders in Oakland Unified respect the concerns of students, and support the growing civic and social participation of students that was inspired by recent events;

WHEREAS, since the school shooting in Columbine in 1999, there have been numerous other school shootings, including those in Red Lake (MN), Lancaster (PA), Blacksburg (VA), Chardon (OH), Cleveland (OH), Sandy Hook (CT), Broward County (FL), St. Mary's County (MD) and many others that have taken scores of young lives;

WHEREAS, youth in Oakland as well as in other major cities in the United States have been and continue to be vulnerable to gun violence within their own communities~~too many of our young people have been shot and killed on the streets of Oakland and major cities across the United States;~~

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WHEREAS, it was reported by the Bay Area News Group in August 2013 that 21 boys and girls under the age of 18 had been killed in Oakland homicides since January 2011. Many of the victims under 8 years of age were in the safest of places: attending a sleepover, being held in their father's arms and being pushed in a stroller by their mom;

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with a gun than people in other developed countries;

WHEREAS, Americans make up about 4.4 percent of the world's population but own some 42 percent of the world's guns;

WHEREAS, assault weapons have no place in society and other types of guns are too easily obtained;

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WHEREAS, teachers are not trained law enforcement officers, and should not be asked or incentivized to keep weapons accessible in their classrooms;

WHEREAS, there is no reason based on any viable research to suggest that adding guns into a school setting or arming teachers would prevent these acts of violence;

WHEREAS, schools in Oakland Unified and across the country need considerable additional resources to plan for the possibility of such acts of violence, coordinate with law enforcement, and secure their buildings from intruders;

WHEREAS, many schools lack the mental health counselors, psychologists, and social workers they need to identify and work with students showing warning signs for depression and violence;

WHEREAS, the nation's data collection on gun violence and gun ownership is inadequate to monitor, understand, or prevent these events from happening;

WHEREAS, the multiple school shootings that the nation has witnessed over the years have complex causes requiring multiple solutions; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Great City Schools, Oakland Unified and the other Council of Great City Schools member districts stand with students across the nation in demanding effective and comprehensive action from the federal government to protect schoolchildren.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to ban the sale, purchase, possession, and use of assault weapons and large-capacity ammunition cartridges, except those required by the U.S. military and law enforcement to protect its or its allies' people and interests;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to require and strengthen universal background checks to possess any type of firearm;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education calls on the President of the United States to charge all agencies of the federal government with the task of reducing the number of gun-related injuries and deaths in the United States.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD's Board of Education is opposed to the arming of teachers to protect schools and children;

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NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD’s Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to extend the perimeter of Gun-Free School Zones;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD’s Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to appropriate adequate new funds to allow Oakland Unified and other school districts across the nation to plan and coordinate (i) tiplines/helplines and (ii) school security efforts with law enforcement officials and (iii) make other building alterations, e.g., install interior locking doors, that may be necessary to protect students, teachers, and staff;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD’s Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to appropriate adequate new funds to increase the numbers of [trauma informed](#) counselors, mental health staff, psychologists, restorative justice practitioners, and social workers in our schools;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD’s Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to appropriate adequate new funds for programs to educate students and their families ~~on~~ [about: \(i\) the dangers of firearms and \(ii\) violence prevention in order to reduce incidences of gun violence](#);

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD’s Board of Education calls on all ~~of the Oakland Unified authorized private schools and~~ charter schools ~~and non-Oakland Unified schools that operate~~ in Oakland to ~~adopt~~ a similar resolution;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD’s Board of Education calls on the Congress of the United States to require that states and the federal government collect the data necessary to track, monitor, understand, and prevent gun violence in the United States; and

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OUSD’s Board of Education directs OUSD’s Superintendent to:

- (i) ~~(i)~~ require that all [cabinet-level leaders](#), school and office site leaders and front office staff to obtain [and stay current on](#) emergency preparedness training [\(including active shooter training\)](#) and to prepare their site staff [\(including substitute educators\)](#) and students with age and role-appropriate instructions and [lock down/out](#) drills as part of their [annual](#) school and office site safety plans;

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- (ii) ~~(ii)~~ make a 24x7 staffed tipline/helpline available through Oakland Unified staff, community and/or government partners to alert mental health or law enforcement/security personnel of concerns related to someone who is in need of support or protection, ~~and~~
- (iii) ~~(iii)~~ find ways to safely secure classrooms and offices from the inside by authorized staff;
- (iv) to conduct annual reviews of compliance with school site plans and drills that are reported to the Board of Education annually; and
- (v) establish a crisis prevention support team comprised of staff from the Superintendent's and General Counsel's office, the affected school/office site, Program for Exceptional Children, and OUSD Police, to meet as needed, to ensure that follow-up by appropriate staff is conducted in a coordinated and timely fashion.

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Passed by the following vote:

PREFERENTIAL AYE:

PREFERENTIAL NOE:

PREFERENTIAL ABSTENTION:

PREFERENTIAL RECUSE:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINED:

RECUSE:

ABSENT:

CERTIFICATION

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We hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution passed at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District held April 11, 2018.



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**OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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Aimee Eng James Harris  
President, Board of Education

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Kyla Johnson – Trammell Antwan Wilson  
Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education