

NATOMAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution No. 21-13

IN THE MATTER OF: A Resolution Denouncing Hate Crimes and Bigotry Targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

The following RESOLUTION was duly passed by the Board of Trustees of the Natomas Unified School District, at a meeting held on March 24, 2021, by the following roll call vote:

Jag Bains	_____
Ericka Harden	_____
Micah Grant	_____
Susan Heredia	_____
Lisa Kaplan	_____

Signed and approved by me after its passage:

Dr. Susan Heredia, President

Attest:

Ericka Harden, Clerk

WHEREAS, Natomas Unified School District supports diversity and inclusion in education; and

WHEREAS, one of Natomas Unified School Districts core beliefs is that *Diversity is our Strength*; and

WHEREAS, Natomas Unified was named as the second most diverse district in the United States in a 2016 New York Times Study; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders comprise 14.7% of the student population in the Natomas Unified School District and 20.62% in the city of Sacramento; and

WHEREAS, the Natomas Unified School District recognizes that each student needs an opportunity to understand the common humanity underlying all people; to develop pride in his or her own identity and heritage; and to understand, respect, and accept the identity and heritage of others; and

WHEREAS, during the coronavirus pandemic of 2019 (COVID-19) violence and

inflammatory and xenophobic rhetoric have put Asian American and Pacific Islander persons, families, communities, and businesses at risk; and

WHEREAS, unfounded fears and perpetuated stigma about Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have contributed to increasing rates of bullying, harassment, and hate crimes against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders persons; and

WHEREAS, On March 16, 2021, 8 people (6 being Asian, 2 white, all but one being women) were gunned down in a potential hate crime in Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, These reports depict a disturbing reality, especially for Asian women, who experienced violence nearly 2.5 times more than their male counterparts; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the Natomas Unified School District stands with the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community and wishes to affirm its commitment to the safety and wellbeing of Asian American students and Pacific Islanders, staff and community members and ensure they know they are not alone and that they can speak out to help stop the spread of bigotry; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the Natomas Unified School District calls on all residents and leaders to join us in condemning racist attacks against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in all forms, and renewing our commitment to speak out against such attacks, defend and protect those targeted, and seek justice and accountability against those who commit hate crimes against Asian American and Pacific Islanders students, staff, and members of our community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governing Board of the Natomas Unified School District will work to ensure that the district's Asian American and Pacific Islander students and staff feel safe and welcome, both during this COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.