

Item 7.2.5: Proclamation in Support of All District Students and Families

WHEREAS, the Centennial School District serves over six thousand students in grades K-12, and

WHEREAS, the Centennial School District has a deep and longstanding commitment to supporting every student in reaching their fullest potential through the critical high quality instruction and services provided, and

WHEREAS, the Centennial School District feels it is gravely important at this moment in our country and our community to affirm our unwavering commitment to justice and fairness, and to the students, families, staff and community served by the district, and

WHEREAS, the Centennial School District’s positive community impact is only possible by being vigilant in our commitment to serving and supporting all students, and in making equitable investments in our public education system to ensure every student can reach their fullest potential in the world;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Centennial School District Board of Directors emphatically rejects racism, ableism, misogyny, homophobia, transphobia, xenophobia, and all words and actions by all persons – elected or otherwise – that are rooted in fear and hate;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit again today to lifting up and empowering all students and families, including students and families of color, immigrant and refugee families, undocumented students and families, and students and families of all sexual orientations, gender identities, disabilities and economic statuses;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the words of Cesar Chavez “preservation of one’s own culture does not require contempt or disrespect for other cultures,” this school district shares that belief;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that as Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. proclaimed “change does not roll in on the wheels of inevitability, but comes through continuous struggle,” this school district shares that belief;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that as Justin Dart wrote “we will do well to recall that most initially successful revolutions have been frustrated by apathy and disunity... we are still far from the promised land of equality and empowerment in everyday life. Our revolution will not be easily or quickly accomplished... It will progress only through inspirational national leadership and the total involvement of united citizen patriots. Like our founding fathers, we will not live to see the final victory; but we can lay the essential foundation of a democratic edifice in which generations of the future – in America and in every nation – will produce a life of quality that transcends the wildest imagination of utopian fiction.”

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the words of Harriet Tubman: “Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.” And, Centennial School District believes each of the students we serve is a dreamer worthy of the best service and support possible.

IT IS FINALLY RESOLVED, that in the midst of uncertainty, fear and worry as the Governing Board of Directors, administration and staff of Centennial School District, we will strive every day in our work to point to the hope that lies within and the dreams of our students;

NOW LET IT BE KNOWN AND PROCLAIMED, that the Governing Board of Centennial School District announces today, Wednesday, December 14, 2016, to be a day where we stand proudly for and with all students and families that we serve; we commit again to our mission and values; and we say no to hate, and yes to a community of equal empowerment for all who come to us for educational services and support.

Shar Giard, Governing Board Chair

Dr. Paul E. Coakley, Superintendent