

WOODLAND JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



Resolution 1-23:

A Resolution in Support of School Safety and Protecting Our Students and Staff

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2022, 19 students, Alexandria Rubio (10), Alithia Ramirez (10), Amerie Jo Garza (10), Annabell Guadalupe Rodriguez (10), Eliahna Cruz Torres (10), Eliahna Amyah Garcia (9), Jacklyn Cazares (9), Jailah Nicole Silguero (10), Jayce Luevanos (10), Jose Flores Jr. (10), Layla Salazar (11), Makenna Lee Elrod (10), Maite Rodriguez (10), Maranda Mathis (11), Nevaeh Bravo (10), Rogelio Torres (10), Tess Marie Mata (10), Uziyah Garcia (10), Xavier Lopez (10), and 2 educators, Eva Mireles (44), and Irma Garcia (48) were shot and killed by an 18-year old at Robb Elementary in Uvalde, Texas, as well as injuring 18 other young students and adults; and

WHEREAS, on November 30, 2021, 4 students were shot and killed by a fellow 15-year-old student at Oxford High School in Oxford Township, Michigan, and injuring 6 other students and a teacher; and

WHEREAS, on November 14, 2019, two students, Gracie Muehlberger (15) and Dominic Blackwell (14), were shot and killed by a fellow student gunman at Saugus High School in Santa Clarita, with three other young students injured as well, all in a matter of 16 seconds; and

WHEREAS, school shootings have become an all-too-frequent occurrence in modern America. From 2012 and the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School, which claimed the lives of 20 first graders, through 2017, the Gun Violence Archive counted 251 shootings at K-12 schools in the United States. In that time, over 350 people were shot and 120 died; and

WHEREAS, according to *Education Week*, from 2018 to the present, there have been 119 school shootings, with 27 school shootings with injuries or death this year so far (2022); and

WHEREAS, according to the Gun Violence Archive, there have been more than 200 mass shootings in the United States this year so far (231 as of June 1, 2022), with 693 mass shootings in 2021, 611 in 2020, and 417 in 2019; and

WHEREAS, according to the Everytown Gun Safety Support Fund, 73-80% of school shooters obtained the gun(s) from their homes or the homes of relatives or friends, and every year, 18,000 children and teens are shot and killed or wounded and approximately 3 million are exposed to gun violence; additionally, "Researchers recently estimated that the number of children living in households with firearms in the United States increased to 30 million in 2021—up 7 million from 2015;" and

WHEREAS, unsecured guns pose a special risk to children - kids as young as three years old are strong enough to pull a trigger. Findings from the 2021 National Firearm survey indicate that approximately 4.6 million children lived in a home with loaded and unlocked firearms; and

WHEREAS, firearms are the leading cause of death for children and teens (ages 1 to 19) in the United States. Every year, 18,000 children and teens are shot and killed or wounded and approximately 3 million are exposed to gun violence. Furthermore, data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates that firearm

homicide rates are highest among teens and young adults 15-34 years of age and Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Hispanic or Latino populations; and

WHEREAS, the Woodland Joint Unified School District strives to provide safe havens for our students and school safety continues to be one of the District Governing Board's highest priorities; and

WHEREAS, District schools are required to comply with California Education Code Section 32280, which mandates the preparation of school safety plans; and

WHEREAS, these plans address violence prevention, emergency preparedness, traffic safety, and crisis intervention; and

WHEREAS, the Woodland Joint Unified School District has committed to maximizing school safety through School Safety Plans at every school, implementing the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, and integrating emergency, crisis, and threat assessment teams to ensure safe school environments across the District; and

WHEREAS, keeping students, teachers, and staff safe from the threat of gun violence is the responsibility of all adult stakeholders at each of our school sites and throughout our District; and

WHEREAS, to continue with preventative measures to increase school safety, we must act now.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the Woodland Joint Unified School District adopts this resolution and directs the Superintendent to assist school administrators in updating their School Safety Plans to include the most current materials and training on the detection and prevention of acts of violence in all form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governing Board directs the Superintendent to update the Student Handbook to include the most current information about parents' legal duties to safely store firearms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governing Board and the Superintendent will continue to work with City and County agencies, health agencies, and nonprofits to collaborate and increase efforts to proactively inform District parents of their duty to safely store firearms in their homes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Governing Board will direct the Superintendent to work with the District Safety Committee to conduct a holistic review and needs assessment of safety gaps and concerns at both the site and District level throughout the 2022-23 school year. The District Safety Committee will identify areas of campus safety to prioritize and investigate, including an assessment of the need for capital improvement projects that improve school site access control; develop a timeline to guide their activities; and utilize the 2022-23 school year to develop short-term and long-term recommendations for the Governing Board, school site leadership, and/or District leadership to consider and help improve safety for our students and staff at every school site and throughout the entire District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governing Board directs the Superintendent and the District Safety Committee to establish a regular Emergency Campus Safety Training led by a qualified third party to be identified by the Superintendent and the District Safety Committee and approved by the Governing Board that will prepare and train all staff throughout the District in responsive training including but not limited to active shooter situations and other violent or threatening altercations on campus; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governing Board directs the Superintendent and district staff to move forward with replacing all classroom door locks district-wide with new locks that allow classrooms to be locked and unlocked from the inside in case of an emergency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governing Board directs the Superintendent to establish threat assessment protocols to prevent violence by detecting behavioral red flags and creating multi-disciplinary support teams to address these issues proactively; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governing Board directs the Superintendent and staff to prioritize the use of funding received and allocated to improve school safety, including Measure Y funding allocations prioritized in the District-wide Facilities Assessment and the Capital Improvement Plan, to support the implementation of the findings of the District Safety Committee's holistic review and needs assessment of safety gaps.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Woodland Joint Unified School District this 23rd day of August 2022 by the following vote:

AYES: Trustees Whitaker, Bautista Zavala, Childers, Garcia, Richardson Fowler, and Rodriguez

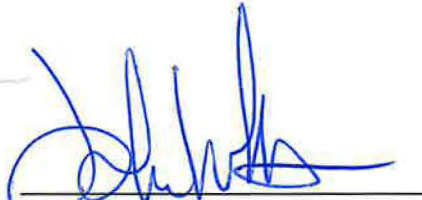
NOES: None

ABSENCES: Trustee Villagrana

ABSTENTIONS: None



BOARD SECRETARY



BOARD PRESIDENT