

MORGAN HILL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution Resolution Against Anti-Semitism

WHEREAS, the first amendment to the Constitution established the United States as a country committed to the principles of tolerance and religious freedom, and the 14th amendment to the Constitution established equal protection of the laws as the heart of justice and peaceful education in the United States;

WHEREAS, adherence to these principles is vital to the progress of the American people and the diverse communities, religious groups, and educational institutions in our Country and in our schools;

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2018, the perpetrator of the deadliest attack on Jewish people in the history of the United States killed 11 worshippers at the Tree of Life Synagogue building in Pittsburgh and reportedly stated that he “wanted all Jews to die;”

WHEREAS, anti-Semitism is the centuries-old bigotry and form of racism faced by Jewish people simply because they are Jews;

WHEREAS, the 2018 Federal Bureau of Investigation report of Religious bias showed that of the 1,550 offenses hate crimes motivated by religious bias, 57.8 percent were anti-Jewish.

WHEREAS, Whereas there is an urgent need to ensure the safety and security of Jewish communities, including synagogues, schools, cemeteries, and other institutions;

WHEREAS, Jewish people have endured and overcome hardship and heartache, and recently have felt fear for themselves and their loved ones in the wake of the largest number of antisemitic incidents since the Anti-Defamation League began collecting records 40 years ago; and

WHEREAS, all Americans, including Jews, Muslims, and Christians and people of all faiths and no faith, have a stake in fighting anti-Semitism, as all Americans have a stake in fighting every form of bigotry and hatred against people based on religion, race, or place of birth and origin; and

WHEREAS, the Jewish faith intersects across ethnicities, nationalities, and races; and

WHEREAS, religious and cultural practices and beliefs observed by Jewish Americans range widely; and

WHEREAS, an annual recognition of Jewish American Heritage month is a chance for Americans of every faith to appreciate the contributions of the Jewish people throughout our history – often in the face of unspeakable discrimination and adversity; and

WHEREAS, we must remain vigilant against anti-Semitism and religious persecution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Morgan Hill Unified School District, in accordance with MHUSD Board Policy 0410: *Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities*, rejects the perpetuation of anti-Semitic stereotypes in its schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED condemns anti-Semitic acts and statements as hateful expressions of intolerance that are contradictory to the values that define the Morgan Hill Unified School District; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Morgan Hill Unified School District Board of Education does hereby proclaim the month of May of each year going forward as Jewish American Heritage Month and we encourage all citizens to celebrate the diverse heritage and culture of Jewish Americans, and continue our efforts to create a world that is more just, peaceful, and prosperous for all.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Morgan Hill Unified School District at a special meeting held on June 15, 2021 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

DATED: June 15, 2021

SIGNED: _____
Wendy Sullivan, President
Board of Education

I, Steve Betando, Secretary of the Board of Education, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the Morgan Hill Unified School District at the regular meeting on June 1, 2021, which resolution is on file in the office of said Board.

DATED: June 15, 2021

SIGNED: _____
Steve Betando, Secretary
Board of Education