



RESOLUTION 2021-2022-024

RESOLUTION DENOUNCING RACISM AT ATHLETIC EVENTS

WHEREAS, the Reynolds School Board values our students and those participating in athletic and extracurricular activities; and

WHEREAS, acts of blatant racism, cultural disrespect, and microaggressions at athletic and extracurricular activities in Oregon are not new; and

WHEREAS, these actions are directly counter to the values of Reynolds School District; and

WHEREAS, as school board directors, we are deeply disturbed by the persistent and pervasive racism against students or community members who are Black, Indigenous, and Culturally Diverse during athletic and extracurricular activities and events; and

WHEREAS, we are entrusted to prepare young people for better futures through an equitable education, including an understanding of our democracy and a commitment to equality and justice for all; and

WHEREAS, athletic competition is in its very nature an expression of the human spirit and is meant to be a representation and celebration of the gifts, skills, and talents, of every scholar and athlete; and

WHEREAS, we are committed to ensuring our students do not experience trauma and harm while participating in athletic and extracurricular activities both in our district and when visiting other districts; and

WHEREAS, every student, coach, parent, caregiver, and community member should feel confidence in their own safety and the safety of others to attend athletic and extracurricular activities in any district; and

WHEREAS, a safe environment is one that is free of bullying, racial slurs, cultural disrespect, microaggressions, and other forms of bias and harassment; and

WHEREAS, our school district is a place of safety in our community and a beacon of light for other school districts and communities, as we build and strengthen trust with the school district community we serve.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Reynolds School Board that we denounce all discriminatory behavior and harassment by students, staff, and fans during athletic and extracurricular activities; that we listen to, believe, and lift up the voices of our students when they share their experiences of racism, microaggressions, and cultural disrespect while participating in athletic and extracurricular activities; that we partner with the Oregon School Activities Association and other educational partners to enact policies to prevent, report, address, enforce against, and hold people and institutions accountable for these harmful acts; that we call for all school districts across Oregon to review and renew their athletic codes of conduct to embody the highest standards of sportsmanship and athletic character, expressly stating respectful behavior by athletes, staff, and spectators; that we urge communities across the state to enact, enforce and clearly communicate policies and practices to ensure that students, staff, and community members who are Black, Indigenous, and Culturally Diverse are safe and supported when participating in athletic and extracurricular activities in all communities.

Adopted this 27th day of April 2022.

Signed:



Chair, Reynolds School District Board of Directors

Attest:



Superintendent/Clerk