



**RESOLUTION # 2023-2024-008**  
**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE CELEBRATION OF**  
**NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY**

**WHEREAS**, October 11th is recognized as National Coming Out Day, and this will be the 35<sup>th</sup> celebration of the day that promotes a safe world for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, two-spirit, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQ2SIA+) individuals and their allies to live truthfully and openly;

**WHEREAS**, National Coming Out Day was founded 35 years ago by Robert Eichberg and Jean O’Leary who envisioned a world where LGBTQ2SIA+ people could live truthfully and openly. They believed that honest and genuine relationships would undermine the pervasive prejudice about LGBTQ2SIA+ concerns. Thirty-five years later, that vision still holds true;

**WHEREAS**, LGBTQ2SIA+ students who can identify an out LGBTQ2SIA+ school staff or adult ally report a dramatic increase in feeling safe overall at their school;

**WHEREAS**, almost 25% of students either have an LGBTQ2SIA+ family member or identify as LGBTQ2SIA+ themselves;

**WHEREAS**, sexual orientation and gender-expression-biased bullying are among the most common forms of harassment in schools;

**WHEREAS**, the school-dropout rate for LGBTQ2SIA+ students is up to triple the national rate of non-LGBTQ2SIA+ students, due to peer harassment and bullying;

**WHEREAS**, tragically, youth identifying as LGBTQ2SIA+ are overrepresented in the populations of youth experiencing homelessness, youth who are the victims of bullying, and youth who have attempted or died as a result of suicide;

**WHEREAS**, we strive to ensure that the District is a consistently safe and affirming space for all students and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, we affirm our commitment to a safe and affirming space by recognizing National Coming Out Day;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that by recognizing October 11th as National Coming Out Day, we the Governing Board of Reynolds School District, support policies, practices and curriculum that support a safe and affirming space for all stakeholders and honor and respect lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, two-spirit, intersex, and asexual staff, students and their families.

Adopted this 27th day of September 2023.

Signed:

  
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Chair, RSD District Board of Directors

Attest:

  
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Superintendent/Clerk