Manhattan Beach Unified School District Resolution No. 2022-42 2022 - 2023

A Resolution Condemning Antisemitism

WHEREAS, the Manhattan Beach Unified School District (MBUSD) Board of Trustees hereby denounces and condemns antisemitism in all its manifestations, and

WHEREAS, there has been an increase in reported antisemitic crimes on MBUSD campuses over the last 12 months. and

WHEREAS, every antisemitic act creates a climate of fear, anxiety and insecurity, both for the individual and the community, and

WHEREAS, the MBUSD Board of Trustees hereby affirms the District's ongoing commitment to cultivating an inclusive and safe society and culture that values the diversity of our community, celebrating both our individuality and our commonality; **and**

WHEREAS, the MBUSD Board of Trustees reaffirms its collective commitment to fostering an inclusive, diverse, and safe learning environment for all students, staff, and families, free from discrimination, bullying, harassment, or fear; **and**

WHEREAS, no individual or group within our District should fear becoming a target of discrimination, retaliation, derision, bullying, isolation, or violence; **and**

WHEREAS, the City of Manhattan Beach and the U.S. State Department have adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism; **and**

WHEREAS, in order to add Holocaust literature and awareness into our rigorous standards-aligned curriculum, and to diversify voices and to build empathy, the Pulitzer-prize winning graphic novel Maus, by Art Spiegelman, was added as a core literature selection to our middle school reading list at the June 1, 2022 MBUSD Board of Trustees meeting; and

WHEREAS, in order to bring history to life, age-appropriate movies, documentaries, literature, and other instructional resources depicting the Holocaust will be considered for inclusion in the curriculum with related professional development provided to teachers and staff; **and**

WHEREAS, MBUSD is partnering with the Museum of Tolerance and the Holocaust Museum LA to access in-service presentations and educational learning opportunities for students, staff, and parents; **and**

WHEREAS, MBUSD successfully partners with the Anti-Defamation League to create No Place for Hate schools at all of our campuses, which work to create campuses free of bullying, bias, and discrimination for students of all religions and ethnic groups; **and**

WHEREAS, MBMS and Mira Costa High School Jewish Cultural Clubs are steadily growing their presence across campus; and

WHEREAS, MBUSD is committed to its adopted STAND UP Inclusion Commitment that designates our school District as an inclusive, safe, and welcoming District, ensuring a protected space for all students to learn; **and**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees reaffirms MBUSD'S commitment to the May 5, 2021 Board-adopted Resolution Denouncing All Manifestations of Hate, Xenophobia, Prejudice and Bigotry, While Affirming MBUSD'S Commitment to the Safety and Well-Being of Our Community, and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Manhattan Beach Unified School District Board of Trustees hereby resolves as follows:

MBUSD Board of Trustees stands in solidarity with those affected by antisemitism.

MBUSD Board of Trustees denounces antisemitic rhetoric and hate-motivated crimes and incidents that denigrate, threaten, and harass Jewish students and staff in the communities served by MBUSD.

The Manhattan Beach Unified School District Board of Trustees hereby adopts the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's working definition of antisemitism and endorses the use of the working definition as a framework to identify discrimination rooted in antisemitism and for discussions to address such discrimination:

Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the Manhattan Beach Unified School District this 26th day of October 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: 4
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 1
ABSTAIN: 0

President, Board of Trustees

Vice President, Board of Trustees

Clerk, Board of Trustees

Member Board of Trustees

Member, Board of Trustees

Superintendent and Secretary to the Board