

## **MURRIETA VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **Resolution No. 20/21-03**

#### **DENOUNCING RACISM, AND SUPPORTING EQUITY, SAFETY AND WELL BEING OF ALL STUDENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Murrieta Valley Unified School District is a preschool through post high school district located in the City of Murrieta, County of Riverside, with a total enrollment of more than 23,000 students;

**WHEREAS**, public schools have a positive impact every day on the lives of numerous students; dedicated school board members and school district employees who work countless hours to provide for the needs of learners of all ages and backgrounds;

**WHEREAS**, the Murrieta Valley Unified School District Board of Education believes that racism and racial injustice have no place in our society and that silence and inaction perpetuates injustice, bias, and racism;

**WHEREAS**, we recognize that discrimination, bias, and racist incidents negatively affect mental and physical health and in turn the academic outcomes of our students;

**WHEREAS**, we are committed to maintaining a safe, positive school environment where all students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members are treated with respect and dignity;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education believes that the District's diverse community of students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members is integral to the success of the District's vision, mission, and goals and that racism and racial injustice are in direct opposition to the District's critical work of providing students with the highest quality educational experience we can envision;

**WHEREAS**, addressing the needs of our most marginalized learners requires acknowledgement that educational excellence requires a commitment to equity in the opportunities and supports provided to students;

**WHEREAS**, the Murrieta Valley Unified School District has focused on equity and access for all students with an intentional focus on closing achievement gaps by way of creating site and district equity teams and plans, hosting equity focused speakers for district wide professional development days, creating parent and student advisory groups to increase stakeholder voice, and hiring a district equity coordinator;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Murrieta Valley Unified School District Board of Education stands against discrimination, prejudice, and inequities in all forms, both institutional and individual;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Murrieta Valley Unified School District will confront the biases in our own school district as well as practices, policies, and institutional barriers that may negatively influence student learning, perpetuate achievement gaps, and impede equal access to opportunities for all students in order to eradicate institutional bias of any kind, including implicit or unintentional biases and prejudices that affect student achievement, and to eliminate disparities in educational outcomes for students from historically underserved and under-represented populations;

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, Murrieta Valley Unified School District Board of Education believes that it is imperative to educate our students and community about racism and injustice and is committed to carrying out justice and equity through continuing to examine curriculum, staffing and professional trainings in the spirit of continuous improvement, acknowledging that this work must become engrained into our systems for lasting change.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS** 10<sup>th</sup> day of September 2020 at a meeting of the Board of Education of the Murrieta Valley Unified School District, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

I, Paul F. Diffley III, Clerk of the Board of Education of the Murrieta Valley Unified School District of Riverside County, California, hereby certify that the above and foregoing resolution was duly adopted by said Board at its regular meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> Day of September 2020.

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Paul F. Diffley III  
Clerk of the Board