



RESOLUTION
RIGHT TO SAFE AND GUN-FREE SCHOOLS
Flagstaff Unified School District Governing Board

WHEREAS, the Flagstaff Unified School District (FUSD) Governing Board is responsible for the safety and well-being of students, teachers, and staff; and

WHEREAS, FUSD has experienced non-credible threats of violence against our students which has created some anxiety for faculty, staff and students and highlighted the importance of school security plans and procedures; and

WHEREAS, there have been more than 300 school shootings since 2013 (with more than 17 occurring in 2018 alone)¹ and recognizing the importance of school climate and safety for effective teaching and learning², the Flagstaff Unified School District Governing Board is committed to improving the conditions for learning in our school community; and

WHEREAS, the Flagstaff Unified School District Governing Board is committed to studying the factors that often lead students to carry out acts of violence on campus (including being bullied or having difficulty coping with personal losses or failures)^{3,4} and implementing measures associated with preventing and averting incidences of lethal school violence (e.g., creating a positive and safe school climate, training in crisis planning, prevention, and intervention, and attention to social and emotional learning)^{5,6,7}; and

WHEREAS, the Flagstaff Unified School District Governing Board is committed to supporting legislation that calls for reasonable restrictions on access to guns and other weapons, including limiting access to those with mental health issues, expanding background checks to include weapons purchased at gun shows and on the internet, reenacting the federal ban on the sale and possession of military-style assault weapons, and banning large capacity ammunition magazines; and

WHEREAS, the Flagstaff Unified School District Governing Board opposes efforts to arm teachers and school staff, advocating instead for state funding to support the other school safety measures mentioned above; and

WHEREAS, the Flagstaff Unified School District Governing Board is committed to reducing threats of school violence by addressing the social and emotional health of our students, including increased access to mental health services, school counselors, and effective teachers; and

WHEREAS, the most effective approach to creating safe school environments is a comprehensive, coordinated effort including schoolwide, districtwide and communitywide strategies supplemented with legislation, resources and support at the state and federal legislation level;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Flagstaff Unified School District Governing Board hereby instructs FUSD administration to hold regular drills as prescribed in both school site and district emergency plans and that said plans involve all school district personnel, law enforcement, fire and medical rescue personnel, emergency management personnel and others essential to preventing, mitigating or resolving any potential crisis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Flagstaff Unified School District Governing Board will continue to work with a broad spectrum of local community stakeholders, local law enforcement, mental health professionals, parents, students, teachers and staff to take any threats of violence seriously and to develop, implement and monitor policies and programs that foster and support a positive school climate, free from harassment and violence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Flagstaff Unified School District Governing Board urges the state of Arizona and the United States Congress to invest in wraparound services to prevent bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence in our schools and to provide funding for programs and staff such as counselors, nurses and psychologists, that support students' mental, physical and emotional health.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Flagstaff Unified School District Governing Board asks the United States Congress to pass specific legislation that reduces the risk and severity of gun violence on school campuses and repeals the prohibition against data collection and research on gun violence by the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC).

APPROVED BY THE FLAGSTAFF UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD ON: _____

Kara Kelty, President

Carol Haden, Clerk

Christine Fredericks, Member

Carole Gilmore, Member

Kathryn Kozak, Member

¹ <https://everytownresearch.org/school-shootings/5955/>

² <https://k12engagement.unl.edu/REVIEW%20OF%20EDUCATIONAL%20RESEARCH-2013-Thapa-357-85.pdf>

³ <https://theconversation.com/if-you-want-to-know-how-to-stop-school-shootings-ask-the-secret-service-92333>

⁴ https://www.secretservice.gov/data/protection/ntac/ssi_final_report.pdf

⁵ <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/bf8a/f5b8e9756acff9a09891bc60466c2af81db0.pdf>

⁶ https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/youthviolence/schoolviolence/data_stats.html

⁷ <https://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2018/03/07/590877717/experts-say-here-s-how-to-prevent-the-next-school-shooting>