

Resolution Supporting Equity, Inclusion and Diversity by the Board of School Directors of the Bellefonte Area School District

WHEREAS, knowing that bias, prejudice, and discrimination of any kind are antithetical to the district's mission, vision and values the Bellefonte Area School District Board of School Directors seeks to promote a climate of acceptance, tolerance and goodwill. To ensure that our students are fully prepared to be global ambassadors of our community, the Bellefonte Area School District Board of School Directors is committed to upholding the principles of inclusion, diversity and equity throughout the entirety of the district.

WHEREAS, the Bellefonte Area School District Board of School Directors recognizes the importance of an educational environment where every person can fully and comfortably be themselves regardless of age, race, gender, ethnicity, intellectual or physical disability, sexual orientation or identity, religion, socio-economic standing, or other dimensions of identity.

WHEREAS, the Bellefonte Area School District Board of School Directors understands that an environment of open dialogue and meaningful action among faculty, staff, students, and the community is needed to ensure the principles of inclusion, diversity and equity are fully integrated into the policies, programs, operations and culture of the district.

WHEREAS, the Bellefonte Area School District Board of School Directors recognizes that employee engagement in continuous professional development and consensus-building on the principles of inclusion, diversity and equity, fosters better engagement with our students to meet their needs, and those of their families and community. By doing so, we can create opportunities to ensure that each child has the tools and support needed to address any lack of awareness and understanding of differences, and to gain buy-in from our entire workforce and the community we serve.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Bellefonte Area School District Board of School Directors is committed to an inclusive, diverse and equitable environment for every student, employee, parent and community member. We commit to use our role as a Board to recognize, respond, and speak out against injustice and inequity in our school community. In support of this goal, the Bellefonte Area School Board of School Directors commits to the following action steps:

- To support and collaborate in the work of the district's Inclusion, Diversity and Equity (IDE) Committee.
- To provide educational training and professional development opportunities focusing on inclusion, diversity and equity for faculty, staff, students, the Board of School Directors and the community.

- To support and collaborate in district initiatives on inclusion, diversity and equity that involve working with other public or private schools, governmental agencies or entities, and community or professional organizations.
- To support the administration and staff's efforts to develop and implement a historically and culturally accurate curriculum that is equitable to all students, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, intellectual or physical disability, sexual orientation or identity, religion and socio-economic standing.
- To provide equitable access to co-curricular and extracurricular activities, enrichment opportunities and social services, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, intellectual or physical disability, sexual orientation or identity, religion and socio-economic standing.
- To set and ensure the adherence to district policies that provide equal and equitable treatment to all regardless of age, race, gender, ethnicity, intellectual or physical disability, sexual orientation or identity, religion and socio-economic standing.
- To foster a welcoming, accepting and kind culture and educational experience that will be attractive to students, families and employees of all races, ethnicities, religions, abilities, sexual orientations and socioeconomic standing.

Adopted this 9th day of February, 2021.


Board President


Board Secretary