

Inspiring Every Child to Achieve

# PHOENIX #1

Elementary School District

## PHOENIX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1 GOVERNING BOARD

# RESOLUTION



### A RESOLUTION OF THE PHOENIX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1 GOVERNING BOARD TO DECLARE SUPPORT FOR SAFETY AND MENTAL HEALTH

**WHEREAS**, half of the children in the United States will meet some sort of diagnostic criteria for a mental or emotional disorder at some point in their lifetime, with the age of onset typically occurring during childhood or adolescence;

**WHEREAS**, among 15-24 year olds, suicide is the second leading cause of death in both Arizona and in the United States;

**WHEREAS**, in the past ten years, firearm suicide has increased in children and teens by 61%;

**WHEREAS**, student safety is a prerequisite for consistently high levels of academic and social development;

**WHEREAS**, our public schools are charged not only with supporting student achievement, but also providing support for mental and physical health, personal growth and civic engagement;

**WHEREAS**, Phoenix Elementary School District #1 prioritizes the safety and well-being of our students, employees, and community members, by providing safe and welcoming spaces and recognizing that mental health is a major component of school safety;

**WHEREAS**, all students deserve access to services supporting and enhancing their physical, mental, and emotional health;

**WHEREAS**, the responsibility for keeping our community healthy is a shared responsibility and cannot be borne by public school alone, and requires support from the family, community, local and state public safety agencies, and policymakers at the local, state, and federal levels;

**THEREFORE**, let it be resolved that Phoenix Elementary School District #1 commits to include mental and emotional health support when discussing and addressing school safety and security;

**THEREFORE**, let it be resolved that Phoenix Elementary School District #1 calls upon the State of Arizona to allocate additional funding toward more mental health support including additional funding to lower the ratio of students to social workers;

**THEREFORE**, let it be resolved that Phoenix Elementary School District #1 shall remain committed to supporting students, staff, families, and community members by ensuring that we maintain supportive environments to nurture safety and well-being.

Adopted by the Governing Board at a public meeting held on August 8, 2019.

### GOVERNING BOARD

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Dr. Larry Weeks.

Dr. Larry Weeks  
CEO & Superintendent  
Phoenix Elementary School District #1

Handwritten signature of Ms. Lynné Almy.  
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Ms. Lynné Almy, PresidentHandwritten signature of Dr. Louisa Stark.  
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Dr. Louisa Stark, Vice PresidentHandwritten signature of Ms. Susan Benjamin.  
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Ms. Susan Benjamin, MemberHandwritten signature of Dr. Elora Diaz.  
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Dr. Elora Diaz, MemberHandwritten signature of Ms. Carmen Trujillo.  
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Ms. Carmen Trujillo, Member