

**SWEETWATER UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**RESOLUTION NO. 4761**

**RESOLUTION ADDRESSING            )  
ANTISEMITISM AND AFFIRMING       )  
THE VALUE OF JEWISH STUDENTS,   )  
FACULTY, STAFF AND FAMILIES      )**

ON THE MOTION OF Member \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Member \_\_\_\_\_, the following resolution was adopted.

WHEREAS, there has been a significant rise in discrimination and hate crimes in San Diego and across the country over the last four years against many racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, and other minority groups; and

WHEREAS, this discrimination, sexism, racism, xenophobia, antisemitism, Islamophobia, homophobia, transphobia and misogyny has not only generated heated rhetoric, but has resulted in harassment, vandalism, physical assaults, and emotional trauma; and

WHEREAS, no individual or group within the Sweetwater Union High School District should fear becoming targets of discrimination, retaliation, derision, bullying, isolation, or violence; and

WHEREAS, the board of trustees is committed to providing a safe, inclusive learning environment and ensuring that administrators, teachers, counselors, classified staff and student leaders are provided training and resources to prevent and address antisemitism in all its forms; and

WHEREAS, through Goal 2 of the district's Local Control and Accountability Plan, the board of trustees supports creating a safe and healthy learning environment for each student by building a culture of equity and a positive climate that promotes excellence throughout the district; and

WHEREAS, the County of San Diego is home to more than 100,000 Jewish people, and thousands of students across San Diego County school districts are themselves or have family members who are Jewish; and

WHEREAS, the Jewish people have maintained a unique ethnic, religious, social, and cultural identity, and diverse ethnic history that spans more than 3,000 years; have become a vibrant and diverse community over the course of that history; and have experienced everything from acceptance and prosperity to hatred and discrimination since their arrival in the United States; and

WHEREAS, as members of an ethno-religious group, students who identify as Jewish at schools across the district come from many different racial and ethnic backgrounds, immigrant communities, levels of religiosity, and more, including those with intersecting identities, and other inclusionary identities; and

WHEREAS, there have been property and vandalism crimes, as well as other antisemitic incidents targeting Jewish places of worship, community centers, and schools in the district, including hateful graffiti at Bonita Vista High School and Bonita Vista Middle School; as well as verbal and physical assaults against people who “look Jewish” or dine at restaurants frequented by Jewish people, has increased significantly over the past few years; and

WHEREAS, these hate crimes show how anti-Zionism and Anti-Israel bias can descend into antisemitism when they promote demonization and discriminatory double standards; and

WHEREAS, the United States government including, but not limited to, the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights, have adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (“IHRA”) Working Definition of Antisemitism; and

WHEREAS, the definition of antisemitism is an important educational tool which covers antisemitism old and new.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of trustees denounces the rise in antisemitic rhetoric and hate-motivated crimes and incidents that denigrate Jewish students and staff in the communities served by the Sweetwater Union High School District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board of trustees supports balanced and open classroom discussion including the use of unbiased and politically neutral materials on controversial issues, as indicated in Board Policy 6144, Controversial Issues; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board of trustees encourages the superintendent to continue to prioritize work in equity, diversity and inclusion through the district, specifically in the adoption and review of instructional materials that reflect the incredible diversity of California’s history and residents as well as the implementation of ethnic studies curricula that covers and celebrates the contributions of all communities, including those of the Jewish community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board of trustees affirms the rights of Jewish students, staff, and families and will continue to work with organizations and leadership dedicated to addressing antisemitism to update and revise existing curriculum, bulletins, instructional resources, reading lists; provide training for teachers, staff, administrators, students, and parents; and to address, prevent, and respond to antisemitism to ensure they are inclusive and reflective of best practices and the full diversity of Jewish people, including those in California and San Diego.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the Sweetwater Union High School District, County of San Diego, State of California, this 13th day of December, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

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State of California        )  
  ) SS  
County of San Diego        )

I, Nicholas Segura, President of the Board of Trustees of the Sweetwater Union High School District, County of San Diego, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution adopted by said board at a regular meeting thereof, at the time and by the vote therein stated, which original resolution is on file in the office of said board.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicholas Segura, President

December 13, 2021  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Arturo Solis, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Adrián Arancibia, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paula Hall, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Frank A. Tarantino, Member