

Osborn School District #8 • 1226 West Osborn Road • Phoenix, AZ 85013 • (602) 707-2000 • www.OsbornSchools.org

Osborn Elementary Governing Board Resolution of Commitment to Black Students and Black Lives

WHEREAS, current events have enhanced the need for communities and leaders to stand in solidarity and unequivocally declare that the lives of Black students and Black people in our community matter; and

WHEREAS, proclaiming that Black lives matter aligns with the values of being responsive to the needs of our community and ensuring that we elevate conversations to forge racial equity and disrupt systems of inequity; and

WHEREAS, Osborn Elementary School District has a shared core value of equity. In Osborn Elementary School District, we celebrate our diversity and will provide the necessary resources and supports to eliminate barriers to success and foster a more equitable future for all our students; and

WHEREAS, as a public school district, it is our solemn duty to drive the limitless growth potential of human beings, with a charge to guide our youth to find and achieve their purpose with a belief that every human being deserves to live with dignity, safety, and liberty; and

WHEREAS, Osborn Elementary School District administration and employees take responsibility for actions, decisions, and statements that impact the education community and the public; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that, across the nation, disparities between the achievement of other students and that of Black students persist, even though these students have the same academic potential and all bring unique, valuable perspectives and experiences to our classrooms;

WHEREAS, today, across the nation, Black students continue to experience inequity of access to learning and are disproportionately overrepresented in discipline statistics and special education programming while being underrepresented in rigorous classes and gifted and Advanced Placement; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that general education research and practice have created a picture that overemphasizes the deficits of Black children, their families and community instead of celebrating them for the unique gifts they bring with them into schools and providing them the opportunity to access more rigorous grade level classes and materials; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board declares that the lives of Black students and our Black community members matter. We as a Board are therefore committed to continuing to address systemic racism towards Black students and will continue to prioritize and target their academic achievements through partnerships with nonprofit groups addressing the school to prison pipeline, adopting updated discipline policy, and providing training and curriculum that is culturally responsive by May 2021.