

LISD Resolution on Racism and Prejudice
August 10, 2020

In light of our collective need to be ready, to be leaders, and to be bold in our commitments to equal treatment, equal citizenship, and a world where children are judged *only* by the content of their character, Longview ISD adopts the following resolution in condemnation of racism, prejudice, persecution, and wrongful prosecution of all people:

WHEREAS, current events have enhanced the need for communities and leaders to stand in solidarity against the murder of unarmed Black and Brown men and women by declaring that the lives of Black and Brown students and people in our community matter; and

WHEREAS, proclaiming that Black lives matter does not negate the commitment of Longview ISD in its mission of “Believing in Excellence for All”;

WHEREAS Longview ISD is committed to being responsive to the needs of our community and elevating conversations that forge racial equity and disrupt systems of often unrecognized inequity; and

WHEREAS, one of Longview ISD’s core values is equity; and

WHEREAS, in Longview ISD, 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 of our students; and

WHEREAS, as a public-school district, we have a solemn duty to drive the limitless growth potential of human beings and an equally important responsibility to guide our youth to find and achieve their purpose in a global society; and

WHEREAS, Longview ISD believes that every human being deserves to live with dignity, safety, justice, and liberty; and

WHEREAS, Longview ISD’s administration, employees, and Board of Trustees (The Board) have the ability, through actions, decisions, and statements, to impact the education community and the public; and

WHEREAS, the Board, as outlined in the District Racial and Ethnic Equity Policy AE (Local), adopted on May 20, 2019 has been and is currently committed to relentlessly pursue improvements to policies, programs, and practices in order to eliminate systemic inequities, ensure educational success for every racial, ethnic, and demographically diverse group of students, and enrich the lives of all children in Longview ISD; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that disparities between the achievement of other students and that of Black students persist, even though these students have the same academic potential; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that all students bring unique, valuable perspectives and experiences to our classrooms; and

WHEREAS, the Board is reminded that when we focus and target our efforts with equality and without regard for race, background, socioeconomic status, or zip code, we see incredible amounts of success among students as evidenced by the results we have achieved through Longview ISD strategic initiatives like Montessori, International Baccalaureate, and Dual Credit.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board declares that the lives of Black and Brown students and community members matter and have value, that the Board is committed to continually addressing systemic racism towards ethnically diverse students, and the Board and will continue to prioritize and target the academic achievements of all students.