

***Las Cruces Public Schools  
In the City of Las Cruces and Dona Ana County  
State of New Mexico***

Resolution #2016-3

**Resolution Regarding the Board of Education's Commitment to Ensure that  
Our Schools are Equitable and Safe Place for All Students**

**Whereas**, as reflected in our District mission to provide a student-centered learning environment that cultivates character, fosters academic excellence, and embraces diversity; and

**Whereas**, the core mission of the Las Cruces Public Schools is to provide learning opportunities where all students can succeed; and

**Whereas**, any resident of New Mexico who has attained the age of five years on September 1 is entitled to a free public education where he or she resides; and

**Whereas**, under Supreme Court law, all children are entitled to a public education regardless of their immigration status or the status of their parents; and

**Whereas**, public schools and school districts in New Mexico are subject to federal and state laws and constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, transgender status, religion, national origin, ancestry, age or disability; and

**Whereas**, no otherwise qualified student, employee, applicant for employment or member of the public shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to unlawful discrimination under any district program or activity on the basis of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, gender identify, transgender status, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, pregnancy status, veteran status, or disability; and

**Whereas**, these principles are set forth in LCPS Board Policies and Regulations AC, JBB, JBB-R, JICK, JICK-R, ACA, and ACA-R; and

**Whereas**, we recognize that national events may have caused uncertainty and some level of anxiety for many families in our community; and

**Whereas**, in these times, we recognize that our mission is more critical than ever because we believe that education can be the bridge to understanding our differences and can bring us together around respect and understanding, rather than fear; and

**Whereas**, it is the goal and commitment of the District to cultivate a safe and supportive learning environment for all, to embrace and value our diversity, and to act quickly to prevent and address any and all issues of discrimination and harassment in our schools.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education publicly affirms its dedication and commitment to all of the students and families we serve, the employees in our District, and the members of our community. We will continue to take any and all actions authorized by law and District policies to provide equal opportunities and safe learning environments for all of our students.

Adopted this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016.

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Sra. Maria A. Flores, President

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Mr. Chuck Davis, Vice President

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Mrs. Barbara Hall, Secretary

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Mr. Maury Castro, Member

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Mr. Ed Frank, Member