Resolution Supporting Transgender, Nonbinary, and Gender Expansive Scholars

April 5, 2022

Whereas, the Hopkins School Board values our transgender, nonbinary, and gender expansive scholars;

Whereas, as school board members, we are entrusted to prepare young people with better futures through an equitable education, including an understanding of and respect for gender diversity;

Whereas, we acknowledge there is a coordinated, nationwide attempt to restrict the rights of transgender, nonbinary, and gender expansive youth;

Whereas, we are committed to ensuring transgender, nonbinary, and gender expansive youth do not experience trauma and harm;

Whereas, we are committed to creating environments in Hopkins Schools for our transgender, nonbinary, and gender expansive scholars to show up as their full selves, experience safety, and thrive;

Whereas, transgender, nonbinary, and gender expansive youth are protected from discrimination by the MN Human Rights Act;

Whereas, to quote one of our fifth grade Hopkins scholars, we say to our transgender, nonbinary, and gender expansive scholars that “you are loved” and “it’s ok for you to be who you are”;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Hopkins School Board as follows:

That we commit to practices within the Hopkins School District that protect and affirm our transgender, nonbinary, and gender expansive scholars, including the full implementation of our Gender Inclusion Policy, and the review of all Hopkins Schools policies to be gender expansive and inclusive; and

That we support Gender Sexuality Alliances (GSAs) and Queer Straight Alliances (QSAs) in our schools; and
That we support ongoing professional development for district staff on gender-affirming practices, including the creation of a staff guide as recommended by our scholars; and

That we support updating our curricula to be gender expansive and affirming, paying special attention to health and wellness and social studies classes as recommended by our scholars; and

That we support hiring and retaining transgender, nonbinary, and gender expansive employees so our youth have visible role models and representation; and

That we will ensure there are multiple gender inclusive bathrooms in all schools and district buildings and that they are in locations that are accessible and comfortable for scholars; and

That we will audit our systems to remove solely gender binary language from all aspects and change forms and school documents to use gender inclusive language; and

That we will require new technologies, apps, and programs use gender inclusive language before buying subscriptions or making purchases; and

That we call on elected and appointed officials at all levels of government in the State of Minnesota to denounce and reject attempts to limit the rights of transgender, nonbinary, and gender expansive youth; and

That we call on elected and appointed officials at all levels of government in the State of Minnesota to create policies and enact practices that protect the rights of transgender, nonbinary, and gender expansive youth, and create the conditions for them to thrive.
Roll Call Vote:

Motion by: Vice Chair Andreson

Seconded by: Clerk Pederson

Vote for All Present: Director Hartland, Director Pederson, Director Adams, Chair Bouchard, Vice Chair Andreson, Director Khan, and Director Ross.

Vote against: None.

Those unable to vote: None.

Date: April 5, 2022, Regular School Board Meeting.

Katie Pederson, School Board Clerk