



ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Resolution Calling for a Bilateral Ceasefire in Gaza and Israel and
to Address Hate and Discrimination**

At a public meeting of the Board of Education of the Ann Arbor Public Schools, County of Washtenaw, Michigan held at **Pioneer High School, 601 W. Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor, Michigan**, on the **17th day of January 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by member Mohammad.

PRESENT: Members: Baskett, Dupree, Feaster, Gaynor, Mohammad, Querijero, Schmidt

ABSENT: Members: None

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Querijero and supported by Member Gaynor .

WHEREAS, the Ann Arbor Public Schools District is committed to establishing learning environments that are physically, socially, and emotionally safe for all students and to cultivating a climate in our schools and community that is welcoming and inclusive for all people; and,

WHEREAS, the ongoing conflict in Israel and Gaza has led to significant loss of life and suffering, affecting the global community, including students and families within our district; and

WHEREAS, it is important for educational institutions to acknowledge global events and their impact on students, staff, and families, especially those from affected regions; and

WHEREAS, the rise of hate speech, including anti-Arab racism, anti-Jewish racism, anti-Palestinian racism, Islamophobia and antisemitism, in discourse surrounding the conflict is contrary to the values of the Ann Arbor School District.

WHEREAS, engaging in age-appropriate, nuanced and culturally sensitive learning through the study of real-world problems is an educationally sound practice; and

WHEREAS, the Ann Arbor Public School district has in place a non-discrimination policy (policy 5010)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Ann Arbor Public Schools Board of Education

- Expresses support for a bilateral ceasefire in Gaza and Israel, release of all hostages, and unrestricted humanitarian aid at the levels recommended by the U.N. to the Palestinian people;
- Understanding its limited role in international affairs, expresses its support for seeking peaceful resolutions to conflicts wherever they may occur and for emphasizing the



importance of protecting human lives and the dignity of all people;

- Condemns hate speech and discrimination: The Board firmly condemns any form of hate speech, including all forms of anti-Arab racism, anti-Jewish racism, anti-Palestinian racism, Islamophobia and antisemitism, and discrimination against any individual based on personal background whether Israeli or Palestinian;
- Encourages educators within the Ann Arbor School District to facilitate informed and respectful dialogue about the conflict, aiming to foster a deeper understanding among students and staff, and to combat misinformation and prejudice;
- Acknowledges its responsibility to provide appropriate tools for teachers. The Board commits to providing the necessary professional development and resources to support staff in facilitating respectful, nuanced and age-appropriate dialogue around culturally sensitive real-world conflicts;
- Reaffirms commitment to diversity and inclusion: The Board reaffirms its commitment to creating an inclusive educational environment that respects and values diversity, and that actively promotes peace, understanding, and mutual respect among all members of the school community;
- Directs the Executive Assistant of the Ann Arbor Public Schools Board of Education to transmit copies of this resolution to:

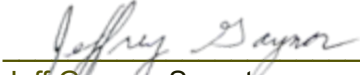
Governor, State of Michigan
All Michigan State Senators and Representatives
Michigan U.S. Senators and U.S. Representative
State Superintendent (Michigan)
All members of the State Board of Education (Michigan)
President, Michigan Association of School Boards
President, Michigan Association of School Administrators
President, Michigan Education Association
All local city and county government officials
Local print, voice, and internet media

Ayes: Gaynor, Dupree, Mohammad, Querijero

Nays: Baskett

Abstentions: Schmidt (based on policy conflict of interest), Feaster (based on policy conflict of interest)

Resolution declared adopted.



Jeff Gaynor, Secretary
AAPS Board of Education



I, hereby, certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the Public Schools of the City of Ann Arbor, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, at public meeting held on January 17, 2024, and that the meeting was conducted and public notice of the meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended, and that the minutes of the meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by the Act.



Jeff Gaynor, Secretary
AAPS Board of Education