



Proclamation

WHEREAS, schools should be engaged in creating pathways to freedom and justice for all people;

WHEREAS, school systems have a responsibility to their students and the communities they serve to nurture young people who have the courage and skills to confront personal, systemic and societal bias and recognize the many types of privilege that exist in our society;

WHEREAS, individual educators, students and families of the Olympia School District have long engaged in action to bring awareness to issues of racial and social justice;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Black Lives Matter at School week of action is to spark an ongoing movement of reflection and honest conversations in school communities for people of all ages to engage with issues of social justice, equity, the intersectionality of oppression and the legacy of institutionalized racism and oppression that has plagued the United States since its founding;

WHEREAS, the national demands of the 2020 Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action align with the Olympia School District's stated desire and continued efforts to practice restorative justice to combat disproportionate discipline for students of color and many marginalized populations in our schools, diversify the educator workforce, incorporate more culturally relevant curriculum and culturally sustaining pedagogy into our schools, and increase staffing for counseling and student support services;

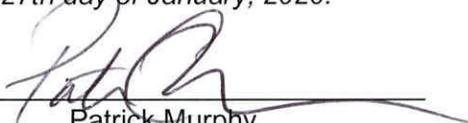
WHEREAS, this continued dialogue belongs in our classrooms, at our kitchen tables, and everywhere in our community.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Olympia School Board proclaims the week of February 3 - 7, 2020 as

"Black Lives Matter at School Week"

in the Olympia School District and encourages educators, students and families to incorporate the 13 pillars of the Black Lives Matter movement into their discussions about race and privilege all year long by teaching a Black Lives Matter at School lesson, showing solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement in our attire, attending an event in support of racial equity, singing songs that acknowledge our history of oppression and the struggle for justice, reading a book that challenges our world view, making art that celebrates the diversity of our community, listening to the experiences of people who are different from us and talking with our children about how each of us can work to build a more just and equitable society.

Signed on the 27th day of January, 2020.


Patrick Murphy
Olympia School District Superintendent


Hilary Seidel
Olympia School District Board President