



**RESOLUTION #19-17
TO SUPPORT STUDENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY**

WHEREAS, mass school and community shootings continue to remind us that our children are the most precious and vulnerable members of our society; and

WHEREAS, thus far in 2019, our country has suffered an enduring series of mass shootings, many on or near schools; and

WHEREAS, public schools have a responsibility to provide a safe and healthy environment for students and staff, a responsibility shared by the larger community; and

WHEREAS, the unreported theft of guns increases the number of unregistered guns in our communities; and

WHEREAS, nationally, existing regulations do not cover many ways of obtaining guns, including such ways as purchase at gun shows, exchanges between individuals, gifts, and construction of home-made guns; and

WHEREAS, nationally, policies and legislation about gun regulation remain unresolved in many aspects such as background checks, interstate concealed-carry, the types of guns that may be obtained, the amount of ammunition that may be purchased, the availability of high-capacity magazines, and the production and distribution of devices that turn guns into automatic weapons; and

WHEREAS, the State of California and the federal government have provided insufficient services and funding for assisting individuals with mental health disorders including students who engage in or are targets of bullying;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education supports federal and state legislation that would ban the legal ability to purchase or obtain assault weapons, automatic weapons, and high-capacity ammunition magazines, to purchase large quantities of ammunition, to transport weapons for concealed-carry into other States, and to make or possess devices that turn guns into automatic weapons; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education calls upon the federal government to enact laws that would develop a comprehensive and consistent process by which designated types of guns may be purchased or obtained and include requirements for universal background checks, gun registration, and reporting gun thefts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education calls upon the California State Legislature and federal government to strengthen laws that would help reduce access to guns by people who are determined to be a risk of harming themselves or others; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education does not support guns on school campuses other than those carried by school resource officers or law enforcement officers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education supports efforts in schools, the community, the State of California, and nationally to provide training in conflict resolution and ways of countering and reducing bullying; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education calls upon the California State Legislature and the United States Congress to adequately fund mental health services and record-keeping systems in schools, relevant county and state departments, and the armed services, to aid in identification of people at high risk for committing violent acts, while ensuring due process for all and avoiding scapegoating or stigmatizing groups or classes of people; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education calls upon the California State legislature and the United States Congress to adequately fund mental health services to treat and rehabilitate persons identified to have the potential to commit violent acts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education calls upon the California State legislature and the United States Congress to adequately fund counseling, mental health services, and provision of resources, for students, families, school teachers and staff, and affected communities, in the aftermath of gun threats and gun violence in schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education calls upon the California State legislature and the United States Congress to require that gun owners be required to carry gun-owner liability insurance and maintain safe storage of firearms and ammunition; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education calls upon the California State legislature and the United States Congress to enact legislation making gun manufacturers and sellers liable for gun violence; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education calls upon the California State legislature and the United States Congress to provide funding to research on gun violence and public education about the effects of gun violence at schools and communities.

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Resolution #19-17 In Support of Student and Community Safety
October 17, 2019

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Board of Education of Santa Cruz County on this **17th day of October, 2019** by the following vote:

AYES: Barr, Filicetti, Nichols, Roth, Sanchez, Van Allen, Sales

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None



Dana M. Sales, President
Santa Cruz County Board of Education



Faris M. Sabbah, Secretary
Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools