

Resolution Affirming The Board Of Education's Support Of The Anti-Bullying Bill Of Rights And Resolving To Take Affirmative Steps To Guarantee Its Implementation In The Passaic School District

WHEREAS, the Passaic School District is a rich and vibrant community that prides itself and draws strength from its very American diversity. "*An America for All of Us*" aims to reaffirm our unique American strength of bringing people from all communities together in order to build a truly inclusive and fair America; and

WHEREAS, the Passaic School District has been and remains committed to the fundamental American values of justice and equality for all, to ensure racism, xenophobia and anti-immigrant rhetoric have no place in our society against any community, and the diversity of all communities is embraced; and

WHEREAS, the Passaic School District is committed to ensuring that students in its school district receive the highest level of education possible in a safe school environment without intimidation, harassment or bullying based on race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression or a mental, physical or sensory disability among other legally protected categories; and

WHEREAS, over the course of years, bullying of students at all levels of the public schools has been an impediment to our children receiving a quality education in a safe school environment where they can achieve their dreams and aspirations without intimidation and harassment; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, on November 22, 2010, passed an anti-bullying law, also known as the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights, which has been recognized as one of the strongest anti-bullying laws in the country; and

WHEREAS, without proper training of teachers and enforcement of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights, student victims of bullying in classrooms in Passaic School District cannot realize the full value public education has to offer; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby expresses its full support, as a governing body, of the implementation and enforcement of the State of New Jersey's Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of the Passaic school district shall take immediate steps to ensure the full implementation and enforcement of the legal requirements of New Jersey's Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights including the institution of a bullying prevention program and a school safety team charged with fostering and maintaining a safe school environment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said bullying prevention program includes training for students and employees regarding sensitivity to cultural and religious practice and clothing; and

