

RESOLUTION REGARDING

BLACK LIVES MATTER AT SCHOOL WEEK OF ACTION 2019

During the 2017-2018 school year, thousands of educators in over 20 cities participated in the national uprising to affirm the lives of Black students, teachers, and families including, Seattle, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Chicago, Detroit, Boston, New York City, Baltimore, Washington, D.C., and beyond. Many wore Black Lives Matter shirts to school and taught lessons about structural racism, intersectional black identities, black history, and anti-racist movements.

This February 4th - 8th, 2019, we are asking individuals and organizations to endorse the National Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action.

WHEREAS, schools should be places for the practice of equity, for the building of understanding, and for the active engagement of all in creating pathways to freedom and justice for all people; and

WHEREAS, discipline, criminalization, and over-policing of Black students has proven to be ineffective in the improvement of outcomes, and restorative practices are proven to be a powerful tool in the reduction of disproportionate discipline and improved school climate, and

WHEREAS, students too often do not learn about their own cultures or the struggles and contributions of Black people and other people of color; and

WHEREAS, Black educators from schools around the country are being pushed out; and

WHEREAS, the thirteen guiding principles of the Black Lives Matter movement highlighted during this week of action are a means of challenging the legacy of institutionalized racism and oppression that has plagued the United States since its founding; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the week will be to spark an ongoing movement of critical reflection and honest conversations in school communities for people of all ages to engage with critical issues of social justice;

WHEREAS, it is urgent that the schools actively combat racism; and

WHEREAS, the Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action's national demands are:

- 1) End "zero tolerance" discipline, and implement restorative justice
- 2) Hire more Black teachers
- 3) Mandate Black history and ethnic studies in K-12 curriculum
- 4) Fund counselors, not cops

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Edmonds Educators Association endorses and encourages teachers, students, and administrators to participate in the Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action to be held on February 4-8, 2019.

Edmonds Education Association

Date