



GIPS BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION ON ELIMINATING RACISM

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2020

Whereas Grand Island Public School's mission of Every Student, Every Day, A Success - and its embedded student commitments - states we are working for EVERY student without exception;

and

Whereas GIPS has formally adopted a strategic plan with equity embedded throughout all objectives and student success measures, including one objective entirely devoted to equity;

and

Whereas GIPS believes education is the great equalizer for all students - of all races, from all socio-economic levels, from all cultural backgrounds and with all kinds of challenges - and because of this we are dedicated to eliminating racial injustice at all levels and in all areas of our district;

and

Whereas GIPS is dedicated to providing early learning experiences for all children, including the most vulnerable children in our community, because we know early childhood education can make the largest long-term impact on all students' education and life-long career success;

and

Whereas GIPS has invested in elementary education, both in and out of the classroom, to provide learning for all students, particularly those without access to before and after school learning opportunities, so as to offer enriching activities to all children;

and

Whereas GIPS helps middle school students and families acquire early awareness of post-secondary potential, with the assistance of our GEAR UP PROMISE program, to create highly effective learners motivated to graduate from high school and achieve success in college and career;

and

Whereas GIPS has launched the Academies of Grand Island Senior High to create small learning communities based on student interest where they are seen, supported and connected; creating a level playing field by giving students of all walks the same chance to earn scholarships, internships, apprenticeships and other college and career readiness experiences;

and

Whereas GIPS recognizes the value of training our staff on culturally responsive teaching practices and have implemented initiatives to diversify our staff, such as the PathBack Program to encourage our students to come back to GIPS to teach when they finish college;

and

Whereas GIPS, this past year, began the task of conducting empathy interviews with students, staff and community members to gain a better understanding of the unique perspective of different races in order to make better decisions from a district level on equity;

Therefore, we as a united Board of Education

Resolve to rededicate ourselves to the actions outlined above for Every Student, Every Day, A Success because we know they are the best defense we can provide our children against the racial injustice they face;

and

Reinforce our belief ALL students can learn and deserve equitable access to high-quality learning experiences;

and

Recognize, even as we acknowledge all of these things, we must do more to address our individual and district-wide biases, to truly commit GIPS to anti-racism and eliminating racial injustice wherever it exists in our district while continuing to prioritize equity in all aspects of our actions.