

The Fight Against Discrimination and Racial Injustices And Encouraging Meaningful and Measurable Action at Blue Oak Charter School

July 2020

WHEREAS, the Blue Oak faculty, staff, administrators, and families are heartbroken and frustrated by the injustices experienced by people of color and other marginalized individuals every day and in every city in our nation and is troubled by the inequities that have plagued our nation for far too long; and,

WHEREAS, with the recent, and very public, deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and countless others, the Blue Oak community is distraught by the continued stream of casualties and abuse and saddened for the families who have been destroyed and the loved ones lost; and,

WHEREAS, to bring about true and sustained change, the Blue Oak Charter Council urges the Blue Oak community to come together in unity and create impactful dialogue on racism and inequities and work toward positive transformations that address those concerns; and,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic further highlighted equity issues in our communities and the struggles our students have with unbalanced learning opportunities and resources, and the unacceptable disparities between poorer communities and more affluent ones; and,

WHEREAS, with protests around the nation erupting in the wake of the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and countless others, the Blue Oak community encourages peaceful demonstrations against racism and police brutality, the sharing of critical messages to change behaviors and our political system, and a showing of respect for every human being regardless of race, ethnicity, and economic status; and,

WHEREAS, the Blue Oak community believes each of us, individually and collectively, are responsible for nurturing equitable educational learning environments where each and every child is respected and valued for who they are regardless of skin color, gender, sexual identity or orientation, ability or disability, or any other category, and,

WHEREAS, the Blue Oak Charter Council calls upon parents, educators, leaders, and all community members to help our children understand and accept diversity, and to teach our

youth how to peacefully speak up against injustice, racism and inequality; and,

WHEREAS, it is now time to move forward, join together to actively challenge racism, and commit to creating an inclusive society free of discrimination, harassment and negative stereotyping toward any person or group; and,

WHEREAS, the vision statement of Blue Oak School is "to be a model for the successful education of the whole child," which includes respecting and positively representing their racial and ethnic identities within our curriculum content and in the language we use in and out of the classroom; and,

WHEREAS, one of Blue Oak's primary goals is "to prepare children for active and ethical citizenship by using instruction that measures and guides critical thinking, self-awareness, intellectual curiosity, creative imagination, and social responsibility," we recognize that ethical citizenship includes understanding the history of race in America and its affect on multicultural America today and that social responsibility comes from studying a multicultural curriculum that positively represents the diverse racial and ethnic cultures within America;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Blue Oak community of faculty, staff, administrators, and families does hereby adopt Resolution Number _____ to voice that racism and discrimination have no place in our society, to encourage the adoption of policies, practices, curriculum, and professional development opportunities that eradicate systemic injustices at Blue Oak, and to challenge us all to think and act differently from this point forward.