

Resolution 1920R-009

By Director Miller, Peterson, and Taylor

WHEREAS, In April 2015, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors adopted Resolution 1516R-001, known as the Black Lives Matter resolution and in November 2018, the Board adopted Resolution 1819R-009, known as the Black Lives Matter at School resolution; and

WHEREAS, The Black Lives Matter resolution called for:

- creating safe spaces, quality restorative justice practices, community and parent involvement, and involvement of student leaders of all types;
- discussions of biases, racial micro-aggressions, fears, cultural ignorance, and stereotypes of Black youth;
- discussions that lead to training of school staffs in methods of de-escalation, mindfulness, creating a culture of trust, and cultural relevance and reviewing and strengthening curriculum, and creating critical ethnic studies;
- bringing community into our schools and strengthening schools as centers of support for communities; and
- the district review its programs that may be contributing to unfair, unequal power relationships with community and school policing; and

WHEREAS, The national Black Lives Matter movement has called for a week of “Black Lives Matter at School Week” for the 1st week of February, 2020 to focus on the need to:

- replace harsh zero-tolerance discipline policies, which disproportionately suspend students of color, with a restorative practices;
- establish African American studies and other critical ethnic studies in all schools; and
- increase the hiring, training and support of Black teachers and other teachers of color; now,
- Fund counselors, not police,
- Provide free quality breakfast and lunches for all students, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the district support the 2020 “Black Lives Matter at School Week” of education and student participation; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That all schools be presented with activities for student education on the issues raised by the Black Lives Matter movement; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That all schools are to develop a plan for implementation of activities supporting the week of Black Lives Matter at School; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a presentation be made to Principals, SST’s, and Parent Coordinators at their Institute and district-wide meetings during the month of January to provide the range of curriculum and activities available to schools and classrooms; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That district-wide activities be considered for the week; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an advisory committee be established of students, community, parents, teachers, and school and administrative staff to advance this effort and the national Black Lives Matter at School program.

October 31, 2019