

Resolution by East Lansing Public Schools
Opposing Any Guns in Any Schools

Whereas, there was yet another mass killing in a high school in our country on February 14, 2018 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida where 17 people were killed, many were seriously injured, and thousands were emotionally harmed; and

Whereas, this was one of 34 mass shootings in our country from January 1 through February 18 of this current year;¹ and

Whereas, there is absolutely no reason why children in this nation and this state should not be able to go to school every day without being afraid for their lives; and

Whereas, the most sacred responsibility of all school boards is to do everything in our collective powers to assure that our students are safe each and every day in our schools, so that they can learn; and

Whereas, students cannot be safe unless and until all guns – other than those carried by trained law enforcement officers – are banned from our schools; and

Whereas, no civilian should ever be allowed to purchase, possess or use a weapon of mass destruction, including but not limited to automatic and semi-automatic guns, nor be allowed to purchase, possess or use any magazine, clip or other tool designed to deliver rapid-fire ammunition without the need to re-load; and

Whereas, this East Lansing, Michigan School Board has adopted a resolution opposing proposed Michigan legislation to allow concealed carry in schools and prohibit school boards from taking action to disallow such activity in our schools (SB 584 and 586); and

Whereas, the East Lansing school board opposes so-called “open carry” in our schools; and

Whereas the East Lansing School Board values our teachers too much to expect them to be armed to protect their students; and

Whereas, the Michigan Board of Education is elected statewide to establish school policy on the state level;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the East Lansing Board of Education calls upon the Michigan State Board of Education and the Michigan Superintendent of Public Instruction to oppose all guns in all Michigan schools other than those carried by trained law enforcement; and

¹ <http://www.gunviolencearchive.org/reports/mass-shooting>

Be it further resolved the East Lansing Board of Education calls upon the Michigan State Board of Education to take a position to actively oppose SB 584 and 586 which would authorize concealed carry of guns in schools while prohibiting school boards from taking local action to prohibit concealed carry in their schools; and

Be it further resolved the East Lansing Board of Education calls upon the Michigan State Board of Education to take a position to actively oppose open carry in Michigan schools; and

Be it further resolved that the East Lansing Board of Education supports any appropriate actions taken by East Lansing students, teachers, school administrators, parents and allies in support of the intent of the East Lansing Walk-out "...calling for students, teachers, school administrators, parents and allies to take part in a National School Walkout for 17 minutes at 10am across every time zone on March 14, 2018 to protest Congress' inaction to do more than tweet thoughts and prayers in response to the gun violence plaguing our schools and neighborhoods..."² by recognizing and supporting any action our school community members might take to support these 17 minutes on March 14; and

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be sent to Michigan Superintendent of Public Instruction, Brian Whiston, the individual members of the Michigan State Board of Education, Governor Rick Snyder, the district's State Representatives and Senators and the district's U.S. Senators and Congressional Representative.

Approved by the East Lansing Public Schools Board of Education

February 26, 2018

² <https://actionnetwork.org/events/enough-east-lansing-walk-out>