

## For Our Children

### Resolution to Enact Common Sense Gun Laws

Whereas East Lansing Public schools have a duty to educate and protect the mental, emotional and physical health of children as evidenced by our mission statement: Nurturing Each Child, Educating All Students, Building World Citizens;

Whereas the East Lansing Board of Education has a duty to actively communicate its concerns and make its position known to elected representatives at both the state and national level (ELPS BOE Policy Manual Section 2201.01);

Whereas firearms are now the leading cause of death of children and teenagers in the United States, killing on average 3500 children and young adults 0-19 per year;

Whereas approximately one third of these gun related deaths are suicides and two thirds are homicides;

Whereas the U.S. has had more than 2,032 school shootings since 1970 and these numbers are increasing. Alarmingly, 948 school shootings took place from the time of the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School in December 2012 through December of 2020;

Whereas American children aged 5 -14 are 21 times more likely, and adolescents and young adults aged 15-24 are 23 times more likely, to be killed with a gun than same aged peers in other "high income countries";

Whereas since the attack at Columbine High School in 1999, nearly 300,000 students have been on campus during a school shooting;

Whereas an estimated three million children witness a shooting every year;

Whereas Black youth are four times more likely to be killed with guns than their white peers and about 1 out of 5 gay and lesbian youth have been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property;

Whereas children are frequent casualties of domestic violence homicides when a gun is involved and the presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation makes it five times more likely that a woman will be killed;

Whereas most gun assaults are perpetrated by someone who displayed warning signs, are intermingled with acts of domestic violence; and are far deadlier when they involve assault weapons and high-capacity magazines; now therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the East Lansing Board of Education:

Implores in the strongest of terms that the governing body of the State of Michigan consisting of the House of Representatives, the Senate and the Governor pursue and enact proven legislation to deter and possibly prevent the gun deaths and injuries of our most precious citizens and residents, our children

Be it further resolved that this legislation should include, but not be limited to:

Safe Storage Laws which hold gun owners responsible if they fail to secure their firearms and those firearms come into the possession of juveniles who cause harm to themselves or others.

Red Flag Laws that allow courts to use Extreme Risk Protection Orders to take guns away from dangerous individuals

An updated Assault weapons ban like the one which was in effect nationally until 2004

Minimum Age to Purchase which requires handgun buyers to be 21+ and rifle and shotgun buyers to be 18+

Prohibition and relinquishment for Convicted Domestic Abusers which requires domestic abusers to relinquish guns and prevents them from having guns after a misdemeanor conviction

Relinquishment for Domestic Abusers Under Restraining Orders which requires domestic abusers to turn in guns when a restraining order is placed

Allows towns and cities to make their own gun safety policies

Ensure gun sales can't proceed while a background check is still ongoing

Require ALL gun dealers to obtain a state license

Require certain gun buyers to take a training course before their purchase

Require a waiting period prior to completing the purchase of any gun

Aye: Members: *Chambers, Edsall, Fink, Lyons, Martin, Powers, Walton*

Nays: Members

Resolutions declared adopted *June 13, 2022*

To Governor Whitmer, Senator Hertel and Congresswoman Brixie:

Monica Fink, Secretary of the Board of Education

I hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Education of East Lansing Public Schools at a regular meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022 and the meeting was conducted and public notice was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act (Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976) and the minutes of the meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by THE ACT.

*Monica M Fink* Secretary, East Lansing Public Schools Board of Education