

Mountain View Whisman School District
Resolution No. 02-05301

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE FIRST FRIDAY IN JUNE
TO BENATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY**

This proclamation declares the first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the Mountain View Whisman School District to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to reduce gun violence.

WHEREAS, every day, 100 Americans are killed by gun violence and on average there are nearly 13,000 gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with guns than people in other high-income developed countries; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is the district's highest responsibility; and

WHEREAS, nearly 80% of active shooters in schools are connected to the school and there are often warning signs leading up to a school shooting -- in 93% of cases there were behavioral warning signs that caused others to be concerned, and in 81% of incidents, other people, most often peers, had knowledge about the shooter's plans; and in up to 80% of school shooting incidents, shooters obtain their guns from home, their relative's home or from friends; and

WHEREAS, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from dangerous people with dangerous histories; and

WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in President Obama's second inaugural parade and was tragically shot and killed just weeks later, should be now celebrating her 22nd birthday; and

WHEREAS, to help honor Hadiya – and the 100 Americans whose lives are cut short and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day – a national coalition of organizations has designated June 7, 2019, the first Friday in June, as the 5th National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, the idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends, who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange; they chose this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods and orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life; and

WHEREAS, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to Wear Orange on June 7th, the first Friday in June in 2019, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

WHEREAS, by wearing orange on June 7, 2019 Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children safe.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mountain View Whisman School District Board of Trustees declares the first Friday in June, June 7, 2019, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. We encourage all schools to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

The Mountain View Whisman School District Board also declares its commitment to keeping our schools safe by:

- (1) raising awareness about the need for responsible storage of firearms,
- (2) working with family and law enforcement to use Extreme Risk Protection Orders as appropriate,
- (3) developing and implementing an evidence-based threat assessment program,
- (4) assessing the physical security of the school, including implementing expert-endorsed best practices related to access control and internal door locks,
- (5) developing emergency preparedness protocols and training for administrators and staff.

Adopted by the Mountain View Whisman School District Governing Board at their regular board meeting held May 30, 2019.

Board President

Board Vice President

Board Clerk

Board Member

Board Member