

RESOLUTION 01-052925
2025 MOUNTAIN VIEW WHISMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT PROCLAMATION
DECLARING THE FIRST FRIDAY IN JUNE TO BE
NATIONAL 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 end this public health crisis.

WHEREAS, every day, 125 people in the United States are killed by gun violence, and more than 260 are shot and wounded, with an average of more than 19,000 gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, people in the United States are 26 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and

WHEREAS, California has 3,332 gun deaths every year, with a rate of 8.3 deaths per 100,000 people, a crisis that costs the state \$41.9 billion each year, of which \$1.1 billion is paid by taxpayers. California has the 45th highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and

WHEREAS, 48% of gun deaths in California are by gun suicide; and

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

WHEREAS, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from those who are a danger to themselves or others; and

WHEREAS, gun violence prevention is more important than ever as we see high levels of gun violence continue to plague our communities;

WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15; and on June 6, 2025 to recognize the 28th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton (born: June 2, 1997), people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to —

- (1) Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence; and
- (2) the loved ones of those victims; 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 6th, the first Friday in June 2025, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

WHEREAS, by wearing orange on June 6, 2025 people across the United States will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, the Mountain View Whisman School District has previously recognized National Gun Violence Awareness Day and has committed to providing an annual notification to remind parents and legal guardians of all students of their responsibilities for keeping firearms out of the hands of children as required by California law; and

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have access to them and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our families and communities safe.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain View Whisman School Board declares the first Friday in June, June 6, 2025, 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.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Mountain View Whisman School District of Santa Clara County, State of California, this 29th day of May 2025, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIS:

President of the Board of Trustees Mountain
View Whisman School District
Santa Clara County, California