



# RESOLUTION

No. 24-67

## RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE APRIL 12, 2024

**WHEREAS**, in April 1996, the National Day of Silence was created at the University of Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, annually hundreds of thousands of students from more than 9,000 K-12 schools, colleges and universities organized Day of Silence events. These numbers make the Day of Silence one of the largest student-led actions in the United States. The event has drawn significant attention to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender, questioning/queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) issues in schools over the years; and

**WHEREAS** the national focus of the Day of Silence is to help end LGBTQIA+ bullying and prevent harassment of students, particularly physical violence and verbal threats; and

**WHEREAS**, it was also determined a greater number of educators supportive of LGBTQIA+ students was also associated with higher educational aspiration; and LGBTQIA+ students in schools with Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs) were more likely to feel safe in school than students whose schools do not have a GSA; and

**WHEREAS**, The School Board of Broward County, Florida supports the development and expansion of Gay-Straight Alliance Clubs in schools throughout Broward County to nurture and value all identities; and

**WHEREAS**, The School Board of Broward County, Florida has taken appropriate measures to curtail LGBTQIA+ bullying and harassment in general through the Anti-Bullying Policy of the School Board of Broward County, Florida adopted July 22, 2008, and revised February 4, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Day of Silence is most effective when schools and students work together to show their commitment to ensure safer schools for all students; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no single way to participate, and students are encouraged to take part in the way that is most positive and uplifting to their school; and

**WHEREAS**, The School Board of Broward County, Florida appreciates and recognizes the importance of the National Day of Silence as an effective tool in the fight for equal protection of all Broward County students; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The School Board of Broward County, Florida hereby declares its support of:

## NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE APRIL 12, 2024

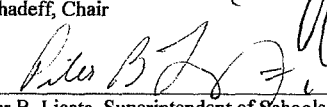
Given at Fort Lauderdale, Florida this 8<sup>th</sup> day of August 2023

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA**

BY:

  
Lori Alhadeff, Chair

ATTEST:

  
Dr. Peter B. Licata, Superintendent of Schools

The Resolution is compliant with State and Federal Laws.