

**MOUNTAIN VIEW LOS ALTOS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESOLUTION NO. 20-41:
DENOUNCING XENOPHOBIA AND ANTI-ASIAN SENTIMENT
ARISING FROM FEARS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AND
REAFFIRMING THE DISTRICT'S COMMITMENT TO
THE WELL-BEING AND SAFETY OF ASIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES**

WHEREAS, as the COVID-19 virus has spread, increasing numbers of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) have reported experiencing acts of invidious discrimination, blatant as well as subtle, direct as well as oblique, malicious as well as unintentional, that include racial profiling and hate incidents, some of which are hate crimes, and even crimes of violence; and

WHEREAS, since the December, 2019, outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in Wuhan, China, the number of persons infected worldwide has grown to more than 4.4 million confirmed cases, with more than 300,000 confirmed deaths; and

WHEREAS, according to the World Health Organization as of May 15, 2020, over 1.4 million confirmed cases have been reported in the United States, with more than 87,000 confirmed deaths; and

WHEREAS, at a White House press conference with the Coronavirus Task Force on March 18, 2020, President Trump dubbed the COVID-19 virus the “Chinese virus,” and a White House official reportedly called it “Kung Flu”; and

WHEREAS, such rhetoric is inaccurate and stigmatizing, tends to incite fear and xenophobia, and thereby puts Asian Americans at risk of retaliation; and

WHEREAS, scientists have confirmed that the COVID-19 disease does not respect borders and is not caused by ethnicity, and the World Health Organization has cautioned against using geographic descriptors because they can fuel ethnic discrimination; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to quantify and combat hate crimes targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders stemming from wrongfully directed reactions to the COVID-19 pandemic, two Bay Area groups – Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON) and Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA) – created an online reporting center where people can submit a form – currently available in English, traditional Chinese, simplified Chinese, and Korean – to report the locations and types of discrimination experienced, as well as other details; and

WHEREAS, A3PCON and CAA plan to use the information reported to create targeted education and media campaigns, to provide resources to those affected, and to advocate for policies to curb racial targeting; and

WHEREAS, in Santa Clara County, one of the first minority-majority counties in the nation, Asians have been the largest racial group since 2014, and currently make up nearly 38 percent of the County’s population; and

WHEREAS, it is the will of the Board of Trustees of the Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District to reaffirm its commitment to the well-being and safety of Asian American community members, and to ensure that they know they are not alone and they can speak out to help stop the spread of bigotry, confident of our support;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District of Santa Clara County, California, that:

The District denounces xenophobia, racism, and any other kind of invidious discrimination, especially when that discrimination is directed towards historically marginalized groups, such as a people of color, individuals with disabilities, LGBTQ+ individuals, and other protected groups.

The District joins Act To Change in sharing one vision: We envision a world where all youth, including within those from the AAPI community, have the opportunity to grow up feeling proud and supported in the development of their identities and the sharing of their stories. We must continue to empower students by advocating for systemic change and providing resources to promote healthy communities.

The District denounces, in particular, all incidents of xenophobia or hate against the Asian American community, and especially such incidents arising from the COVID-19 crisis.

The District is committed to this important issue and encourages the public to foster dialogue, share resources, and learn more about what they can do to fight bullying.

Adopted by the Mountain View Los Altos Union High School Board of Trustees on Monday, May 18, 2020.

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABSENT: _____

Sanjay Dave, President
Board of Trustees

Dr. Nellie Meyer, Superintendent