

**MOUNTAIN VIEW LOS ALTOS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**RESOLUTION NO. 23/24-12: RESOLUTION ENDORSING PRESIDENT BIDEN’S
REMARKS OF OCTOBER 10, 2023, REGARDING HAMAS TERRORIST ATTACKS
IN ISRAEL AND AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR DISTRICT’S AFFECTED FAMILIES**

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has informed all who heard his remarks of October 10, 2023, regarding the terrorist attacks in Israel that, at “the bloody hands of the terrorist organization Hamas — a group whose stated purpose for being is to kill Jews ...

More than 1,000 civilians (were) slaughtered — not just killed, slaughtered — in Israel. Among them, at least 14 American citizens killed.

Parents (were) butchered using their bodies to try to protect their children

Stomach-turning reports of babies being killed. Entire families slain.

Young people massacred while attending a musical festival to celebrate peace — to celebrate peace.

Women raped, assaulted, paraded as trophies.

And thousands of wounded, alive but carrying with them the bullet holes and the shrapnel wounds and the memory of what they endured”; and

WHEREAS, in those same remarks, the President noted,

“The brutality of Hamas — this bloodthirstiness — brings to mind the worst — the worst rampages of ISIS. This is terrorism, but sadly, for the Jewish people, it’s not new. This attack has brought to the surface painful memories and the scars left by millennia of antisemitism and genocide of the Jewish people. So, in this moment, we must be crystal clear: We stand with Israel ... There is no justification for terrorism. There is no excuse.” and

WHEREAS, the massacres of civilians by Hamas terrorists that occurred on October 7th, a Jewish holy day (*Shemini Atzeret*), killed more Jews than on any other single day since the Holocaust; and

WHEREAS, the nature and scale of the Hamas massacres have resulted in their being characterized as Israel’s 9/11, evoking the same kinds of emotions from Jews (and others) as Al Qaeda’s 9/11 attacks evoked from Americans, thereby making it much more difficult for Jews to overcome the traumatic grief these massacres engender than it is for them to cope with the destructive skirmishes that — sad to say — have become an expected risk of daily life for Palestinians and Israelis alike; and

WHEREAS, members of the MVLA community, especially Jewish members and their friends and families, are understandably grief stricken and deserving of compassion and support; and

WHEREAS, President Biden’s remarks include the reminder that “Like every nation in the world, Israel has the right to respond — indeed has a duty to respond — to these vicious attacks.” and

WHEREAS, Israel’s performing its duty to respond is certain to be accompanied by casualties among Palestinian, Israeli and other civilians, in Gaza and in Israel, thus intensifying and spreading anxiety, sorrow, grief, heartache, and dread among members of the MVLA community, further increasing the ranks of those deserving compassion and support; and

WHEREAS, President Biden called this “a moment for the United States to come together, to grieve with those who are mourning,” and said, “Let’s be real clear: There is no place for hate in America — not against Jews, not against Muslims, not against anybody. We reject terrorism. We condemn the indiscriminate evil, just as we’ve always done.”

LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED THAT,

The Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District Board of Trustees does hereby unequivocally condemn the massacres and other destructive acts perpetrated by the terrorist group Hamas. The depravity and cruelty sicken us, but they also stiffen our resolve to stand with those who promise, “Never again.”

The Board of Trustees, believing it is never appropriate to celebrate terrorism or the harming of civilians, furthermore condemns demonstrations celebrating acts of terrorism by Hamas or others, or glossing over Hamas’s commitment to kill Jews.

The Board also endorses President Biden’s remarks, and emphasizes in particular that there is no place for hate in MVLA — not against Jews, not against Muslims, not against anybody.

The Board recognizes that this is an extremely difficult time for many members of our community who have family and friends in the region and who are in pain and grieving deeply. The Board affirms that we and our employees and agents are here to support all our students and their families in whatever way we can, and welcomes suggestions for providing such support.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the following vote of the Board of Trustees of the Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District, County of Santa Clara, State of California on October 16, 2023.

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSENT: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

President, Board of Trustees