

## RESOLUTION NO. 1920-23

### RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE FREMONT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT DENOUNCING XENOPHOBIA AND ANTI-ASIAN SENTIMENT ARISING DUE TO FEARS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND AFFIRMING ITS COMMITMENT TO THE WELL-BEING AND SAFETY OF ASIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

**WHEREAS**, Asian American communities across the world, and here in Santa Clara County, are suffering acts of discrimination, hate crimes, and micro-aggressions due to fears of COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, since the December 2019 outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in Wuhan, China, the infection has grown to more than 600,000 confirmed cases and more than 30,000 confirmed deaths worldwide;

**WHEREAS**, according to the World Health Organization, over 100,000 cases have been reported in the United States as of March 29, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, there have been troubling incidents, widely reported in the media, of prominent and public figures using racist and disparaging language when describing the virus;

**WHEREAS**, such rhetoric is reminiscent of the late 1800s, when Chinese Americans were deemed the "yellow peril," despite living in the United States for years;

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

**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;

**WHEREAS**, as the COVID-19 virus has spread, numerous Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) have reported experiencing micro aggressions, racial profiling, hate incidents and, in some cases, hate violence;

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to quantify and combat hate crimes targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders stemming from people's reaction 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 fill out a form—currently available in English, traditional Chinese, simplified Chinese, and Korean—to report the location and type of discrimination experienced and other details;

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

**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, Asians make up nearly 38 percent of the county's population; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fremont Union High School District Board of Trustees wishes to affirm its commitment to the well-being and safety of Asian American community members and ensure they know they are not alone and that they can speak out to help stop the spread of bigotry;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Fremont Union High School District, that:

1. The Board denounces xenophobia and anti-Asian sentiment and does not support racist remarks and actions regarding the COVID-19 virus.
2. The Board joins cities, counties, and states across the country in affirming its commitment to the safety and well-being of Asian Americans and in combating hate crimes targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.
3. The Board will continue its efforts to protect residents and victims of hate, and to prosecute and curb hate acts related to COVID-19 in partnership with nonprofits, the County of Santa Clara's District Attorney's office, the San Jose Police Department, and others.
4. The Board calls upon all counties, cities, and local governments across the United States to adopt similar commitments to reaffirm their solidarity with Asian American communities and commit to combatting hate.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Fremont Union High School District Board of Trustees, on May 5, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Jeff Moe  
President of the Governing Board

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Naomi Nakano-Matsumoto  
Clerk of the Governing Board