

Proclamation

## Flagler County School Board STATEMENT PROMOTING PUBLIC CIVILITY and

## Denouncing Hate Speech

## FLAGLER COUNTY, FLORIDA

*Whereas,* the School Board of Flagler County is responsible for ensuring a safe learning environment, where all students are afforded the ability to have positive experiences and outcomes; and

*Whereas,* the School Board is responsible for ensuring there are policies in place so that School District Staff, and Administrators are provided a safe and positive environment to support them while assisting all students achieve success; and

*Whereas,* the School Board is committed to providing an environment which isconducive to learning and civility; and

*Whereas,* civility is a commitment to respect one another and encourage professional and academic growth with open communication, honesty, and empathy; and

*Whereas,* civility is a dedication to provide these values to our students, staff and everyone within the community; and

<u>Whereas, Members of the public shall have an opportunity to address the School Board at a</u> <u>public meeting regarding any proposition before the Board. Speakers shall adhere to the rules</u> <u>established by the Board in accordance with Florida Statutes.</u>

<u>Whereas, The public shall be informed that it is unlawful to knowingly disrupt or interfere with a</u> <u>School Board meeting and that any such action may result in a misdemeanor offense of the</u> <u>second degree.</u>

Whereas, The 2020 hate crimes data, voluntarily submitted by 15,138 law enforcement agencies, provide information about the offenses, victims, offenders, and locations of hate crimes. Of these agencies who submitted incident reports, there were 8,263 hate crime incidents involving 11,129 offenses. 61.8% of victims were targeted because of the offenders' race/ethnicity/ancestry, 20.0% were victimized because of the offenders' sexual-orientation, 13.3% were targeted because of the offenders' religious affiliation, 2.7% were targeted because of the offenders' gender identity, 1.4% were victimized because of the offenders' disability, and 0.7% were victimized because of the offenders' gender. Of the reported offenses, 53.1% were for intimidation, 27.9% were for simple assault, and 17.9% were for aggravated assault. Whereas, the the Flagler County School Board has a responsibility to follow Florida state statues and district policy 217 from Prohibiting discrimination and harassment of our students and employees. and

*Whereas,* the Flagler County School Board formally reaffirms, it will not tolerate intimidating actions, <u>epithets,</u> slurs, name calling; <u>threatening, intimidating or hostile</u> <u>acts</u> and/or threats of violence by any individual toward Flagler County School District students, staff, administrators or the public, while these individuals engage in school district related business; and

*Whereas,* this civility statement cannot guarantee the principled and considerate conduct we all would hope for, it can serve as a guideline for all members of the community; and

*Whereas,* the School Board invites and welcomes Flagler County residents, students and staff to participate in respectful, civil discourse <u>in a safe and nonthreatnening environment</u> when coming before the Flagler County School Board.

*Now, Therefore,* we, the School Board of Flagler County, do hereby commit to promoting the use of and adherence to the principles of civility and civil discoursein conducting all business coming before the School Board.

Signed this day, January, 2022, Flagler County School Board

Trevor Tucker, Chair

Dr. Colleen Conklin, Vice Chair

Cheryl Massaro

Janet McDonald

Jill Woolbright