



**Yolo County Board of Education and
Yolo County Superintendent of Schools**

**Resolution #21-22/57
In Support of Keeping Students and Staff Safe**

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2022, 19 students and 2 teachers were killed and 16 additional students and adults were injured at Robb Elementary in Uvalde, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the names and ages of the 19 students are: Alexandria “Lexi” Aniyah Rubio (age 10), Alithia Ramírez (age 10), Amerie Jo Garza (age 10), Annabell Guadalupe Rodríguez (age 10), Eliahna A. Torres (age 10), Eliahna “Ellie” Amyah García (age 9), Jacklyn Cazares (age 10), Jailah Nicole Silguero (age 10), Jayce Carmelo Luevanos (age 10), José Manuel Flores Jr. (age 10), Layla Salazar (age 10), Makenna Lee Elrod (age 10), Maite Yuleana Rodriguez (age 10), Maranda Mathis (age 11), Nevaeh Bravo (age 10), Rojelio Torres (age 10), Tess Marie Mata (age 10), Uziyah García (age 10), Xavier López (age 10); and

WHEREAS, the names of the 2 teachers are: Eva Mireles and Irma García; and

WHEREAS, in May 2022, a mass shooting occurred at a Tops Supermarket in Buffalo, New York, where 10 African Americans were killed and 3 wounded, which is being investigated as a hate crime and act of racially motivated violent extremism; and

WHEREAS, in November 2021, 4 students were shot and killed by a fellow 15-year-old student at Oxford High School in Oxford Township, Michigan, and injuring 6 other students and a teacher; and

WHEREAS, in July 2019, there was a mass shooting at the Gilroy Garlic Festival, which senselessly took the young lives of Stephen Romero (age 6), Keyla Salazar (age 13), and Trevor Irby (age 25); and

WHEREAS, in November 2019, two students, Gracie Muehlberger (age 15) and Dominic Blackwell (age 14), were shot and killed by a fellow student gunman at Saugus High School in Santa Clarita, with three other young students injured as well; and

WHEREAS, school shootings have become an all-too-frequent occurrence in modern America; and

WHEREAS, from 2012-2017, the Gun Violence Archive counted 251 shootings at K-12 schools in the United States, with 350 people were shot and 120 deaths; and

WHEREAS, according to *Education Week*, from 2018 to the present, there have been 119 school shootings, with 27 school shootings in 2022 with injuries or death this year so far; and

WHEREAS, according to the Gun Violence Archive, there have been more than 200 mass shootings in the United States in 2022 so far (231 as of June 1, 2022), with 693 mass shootings in 2021, 611 in 2020, and 417 in 2019; and

WHEREAS, according to the Everytown Gun Safety Support Fund, 73-80% of school shooters obtained the gun(s) from their home or the homes of relatives or friends and that every year, 18,000 children and teens are shot and killed or wounded and approximately 3 million are exposed to gun violence; and

WHEREAS, according to the Everytown Gun Safety Support Fund, researchers recently estimated that the number of children living in households with firearms in the United States increased to 30 million in 2021, up 7 million from 2015; and

WHEREAS, findings from the 2021 National Firearm survey indicates that approximately 4.6 million children lived in a home with loaded and unlocked firearms; and

WHEREAS, unsecured guns pose a special risk to children as kids as young as three years old are strong enough to pull a trigger; and

WHEREAS, firearms are the leading cause of death for children and teens ages 1 to 19 in the United States and every year, 18,000 children and teens are shot and killed or wounded and approximately 3 million are exposed to gun violence; and

WHEREAS, data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates that firearm homicide rates are highest among teens and young adults 15-34 years of age and among Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Hispanic or Latino populations; and

WHEREAS, in California, despite strong gun safety laws and a low gun death rate compared to other states, guns are the third-leading cause of death for California children ages 1–17; and

WHEREAS, from 2013-2017, 3,278 people under age 25 were killed with a gun in California; and

WHEREAS, according to the *New England Journal of Medicine*, firearm-related injuries are now as of 2020, the leading cause of death among children and adolescents, accompanied by a 29.5% increase in firearm-related deaths from 2019 to 2020, more than twice as high as the relative increase in the general population; and

WHEREAS, approximately 20% of adults in California possess a firearm, and state and local law criminalizes unsafe storage of firearms where minors may be present. However, while gun stores are required to post flyers that set forth safe storage requirements, there are no dedicated federal resources for educating adults about safe storage of firearms; and

WHEREAS, the Yolo County Office of Education is committed to providing safe havens for our students and school safety remains a high priority for the Yolo County Board of Education and the Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, schools in Yolo County are required to comply with California Education Code section 32280-32288, which mandates Comprehensive Safe Schools Plan requirements for all K-12 schools in the state, which address violence prevention, emergency preparedness, traffic safety and crisis intervention; and

WHEREAS, the Yolo County Office of Education has committed to providing Comprehensive Safe Schools Plans for every program, implementing the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, and integrating emergency, crisis and threat assessment teams to ensure a safe school environment; and

WHEREAS, emergency, security and safety planning requires an ongoing effort from the organization to be successful; and

WHEREAS, YCOE is taking the necessary steps that will increase school safety and keep our students, teachers and staff safe from the threat of gun violence at each of our school sites with the development of a new comprehensive emergency, safety and security plan, which will include an update and reorganization of YCOE's current emergency operations plan; and

WHEREAS, phase one of the plan will focus on building a strong foundation by rebuilding the organization's emergency operations plan, developing individual site assessments, and a rollout of the updated plan to staff and local first responders; and

WHEREAS, phase two of the plan will focus on developing an outreach and partnership plan, and developing training exercises and drills for the organization; and

WHEREAS, phase three of the plan will focus on the development of operational initiatives to increase school safety and establishment of a behavior threat assessment team; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Yolo County Board of Education and the Yolo County Superintendent of Schools condemns gun violence and acts of violence in all forms in schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Yolo County Office of Education will facilitate opportunities to incorporate staff and student voice in conversations around school safety, as well as partner with other organizations and agencies that can create opportunities for education and training on gun safety; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Yolo County Board of Education and the Yolo County Superintendent of Schools urge Congress to prioritize the protection of students and educators by passing common sense gun control reform that would help protect students from gun violence, which includes implementing universal background checks, implementing extreme risk laws also known as

'red flag' laws, reinstating the federal assault gun ban, and prohibiting sales of guns to violent criminals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Yolo County Board of Education and the Yolo County Superintendent of Schools urge Congress to fully fund gun violence research by the United States Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the National Institute of Health (NIH); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Yolo County Board of Education and the Yolo County Superintendent of Schools urge the California State Legislature to expand funding for K-12 wraparound services to prevent bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence in our schools and to provide funding for programs and staff such as counselors, nurses, psychologists, and social workers that support students' mental, physical and emotional health; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to Congresswoman Doris Matsui, Congressman Mike Thompson, Congressman John Garamendi, Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, Senator Bill Dodd, and Senator Richard Pan.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Yolo County Board of Education and the Yolo County Superintendent of Schools on June 28, 2022.

AYES: Esquivel, Moreno, Souza Cole, Yip, Zendejas

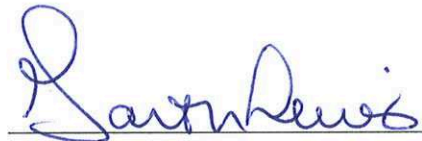
NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None



Melissa Moreno, President
Yolo County Board of Education



Garth Lewis
Yolo County Superintendent of Schools