

Resolution to Oppose Legislation that Allows Guns in Schools, Including Michigan SB 584 and 586, and HB 4876

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Ann Arbor Public Schools held at Allen Elementary School, 2560 Towner, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, held on the 25th day of October, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time.

The meeting was called to order by member Stead.

PRESENT: Members: Baskett, Gaynor, Kelly, Lightfoot, Manley, Mitchell (via telephone), Stead.

ABSENT: Members: None

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Gaynor and supported by Member Baskett.

WHEREAS all Boards of Education in the State of Michigan have an obligation to create and maintain a safe environment in which education is conducted; and

WHEREAS legislators possess the accountability to create a safe or unsafe environment, as evidenced by increasing incidents of increasingly destructive mass shootings, making the United States now the most dangerous country in the world to live based on our deaths by shootings and gun legislation policies; and

WHEREAS lax gun policies already allow the mentally ill and citizens deemed too dangerous to fly in the United States unlimited access to guns and ammunition; and

WHEREAS the federal government has designated schools as gun-free zones; and

WHEREAS the State of Michigan Constitution defines the presence of a gun as an emergency; and

WHEREAS the Ann Arbor Public Schools policy prohibits students and staff from possessing weapons, real or not, on school property or at events; and

WHEREAS the Ann Arbor Public Schools Board of Education has declared all Ann Arbor Public School property and events as weapons-free areas to ensure the safety of students, staff and visitors (policies 5400, 5410, 5420); and

WHEREAS the following bills compromise the ability to maintain a safe environment by removing requirements of licensure, training, and would allow for open and concealed carry of loaded dangerous weapons: SB 584 and 586, and HB 4876;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

The Ann Arbor Public Schools Board of Education:

- Opposes all bills that compromise the ability for schools to maintain a safe environment, including Michigan’s 2017 HB 4876, SB 584, and SB 586;
- Urges all Michigan legislators to vote “no” on these bills;
- Urges Michigan Governor Rick Snyder to veto any bill that allows guns in schools by unauthorized people, and compromises the creation and maintenance of a safe education environment;
- Directs the Executive Assistant of the Ann Arbor Public Schools Board of Education to transmit copies of this resolution to:

Rick Snyder, Governor of Michigan
All Michigan State Senators and Representatives
Brian J Whiston, State Superintendent (Michigan)
All members of the State Board of Education (Michigan)
Brenda Carter, President, Michigan Association of School Boards
Don Wortuba, Executive Director, Michigan Association of School Boards
Michele Lemire, President, Michigan Association of School Administrators
Paula Herbart, President, Michigan Education Association
Local print, voice, and Internet media

Ayes: Baskett, Gaynor, Kelly, Lightfoot, Manley, Mitchell, Stead

Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted.



Jeffrey Gaynor, Secretary
AAPS Board of Education

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the Public Schools of the City of Ann Arbor, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on October 25, 2017, and that the meeting was conducted and public notice of the meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended, and that the minutes of the meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by the Act.



Jeffrey Gaynor, Secretary
AAPS Board of Education