

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE METROPOLITAN
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, MARION COUNTY, INDIANA,
IN SUPPORT OF DISTRICT EQUITY AND INCLUSION EFFORTS**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan School District of Washington Township (“District”) is committed to maintaining an educational environment that serves students of all races, ethnicities, gender and abilities without discrimination;

WHEREAS, the District recognizes that public education is an important foundation for any successful, democratic society;

WHEREAS, the District seeks to maintain superior schools in a supportive community;

WHEREAS, the District’s commitment to valuing the diverse and unique learning needs of our students who enter our schools, making it a culturally-enriched learning experience for all, is embodied in the District’s Human Relations Policy;

WHEREAS, public education has historically often fallen short in educating and serving all students equally without regard to socio-economic status, race or ethnicity;

WHEREAS, public education has also been adversely impacted by other social and criminal systems that have disparate impacts on the District’s minority populations;

WHEREAS, these disparities are often seen on a national level that have increased in frequency and notoriety in 2020 that sparked nationwide protests, including protests in Indianapolis, surrounding police interactions with minorities;

WHEREAS, the District has continued to address inequities within the educational and social systems through training efforts of administrators, teachers and classroom aids to better serve the diverse District community;

WHEREAS, the District has consistently engaged students in a culturally responsive and inclusive manner, recognizing that respect for all beliefs or opinions that come from different cultural, racial, ethnic, socio-economical, religious, or ability backgrounds is at the forefront of our continued development as a learning organization;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education responded to the national protests and dialogue regarding racism, implicit bias, and racial injustices by goals in the District’s strategic plan to increase academic success and social emotional learning skills of students and retain and hire staff that represent the students and families served;

WHEREAS, the District’s efforts to address inequities continue with the establishment of the cabinet-level Director of Equity & Inclusion position;

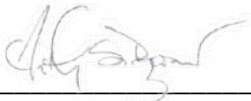
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Metropolitan School District of Washington Township that:

- 1) The District cherishes the lives of our black students because each student, regardless of race, gender, socio-economic background, or ability, can be a leader of tomorrow. In particular, the District recognizes that society has not always valued or communicated its value of minorities, and minority students specifically. We are committed to engaging in difficult conversations with respect and correcting historical inequities that have been barriers for minority students while maintaining compliance with the District's nondiscrimination commitments. The District chooses to demonstrate its commitments to its students through increasing academic success and social emotional learning skills for all of its students, including its black students.

- 2) The District recognizes how all students benefit when the District's staff represent the community it serves. All students are trained to engage in a diverse culture while celebrating unique differences and respectfully discussing the issues of the day. The District believes this culture is best served through top-quality educators from all backgrounds who are committed to high-quality teaching and learning.



William Turner, President
Board of Education



Anthony S. Dzwonar, Secretary
Board of Education