



The School Board of Broward County, Florida

PROCLAMATION

Declaring the First Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day

This proclamation declares the first Friday in June of 2018 to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the Broward County Schools, to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence, and to declare that we as a country must do more to prevent gun violence.

WHEREAS, every day, 96 Americans are killed by gun violence and on average there are nearly 13,000 gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with guns than people in other developed countries; and

WHEREAS, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from dangerous people; and

WHEREAS, Hadiya Pendleton, a 15-year-old teenager who marched in President Obama's second inaugural parade and was tragically shot and killed just weeks later in Chicago, should be now celebrating her 21st birthday; and

WHEREAS, to help honor Hadiya – and the 96 Americans whose lives are cut short and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day – a national coalition of organizations has designated June 1st, 2018, the first Friday in June, as the 4th National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, the idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends, who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange choosing this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when in the woods and orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life; and

WHEREAS, The recent tragic events at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, where Gun Violence resulted in the loss of 17 students and faculty, and wounding of 17 others, brings greater attention to the need for awareness; and,

WHEREAS, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to WEAR ORANGE on the first Friday in June of 2018, to help raise awareness about gun violence in America, and to honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children and our communities safe.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Broward County, Florida hereby proclaims June 1st, 2018 to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in all Broward schools and encourages all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

Given at Fort Lauderdale, Florida this 22nd Day of May, 2018.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Nora Rupert, Chair

By: _____
Robert W. Runcie, Superintendent