



The School Board of Broward County, Florida

RESOLUTION

NO: 20-113

RESOLUTION ON THE COMMITMENT OF THE BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT TO BLACK STUDENTS

WHEREAS, current events have enhanced the need for communities and leaders to stand in solidarity and unequivocally declare that the lives of Black students; and

WHEREAS, today, across the nation, Black students continue to experience inequity of access to learning and are disproportionately overrepresented in discipline statistics and special education programming while being underrepresented in rigorous classes and gifted and Advanced Placement; and

WHEREAS, the School Board recognizes that general education research and practice have created a picture that overemphasizes the deficits of Black children, their families and community instead of celebrating them for the unique gifts they bring with them into schools and providing them the opportunity to access more rigorous grade level classes and materials; and

WHEREAS, highlighting the value of our Black students does not negate the commitment of the Broward County Public Schools District in its mission of “educating all students to reach their highest potential.” Rather, this resolution aligns with the values of being responsive to the needs of our community and ensuring that we encourage courageous conversations to forge racial equity and disrupt systems of inequity; and

WHEREAS, as outlined in our strategic plan’s core values and strategic goals, we commit to relentlessly pursue systemic improvements to operating standards, professional development, and practices that eliminate inequities; ensure educational success for all learners; and enrich the lives of all children in Broward County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, we speak and act with a shared voice of equality, celebrate our diversity, and provide the necessary resources and supports to eliminate barriers towards fostering a more equitable future for all our students; and

WHEREAS, our School Board, administration and employees take responsibility for actions, decisions, and statements that impact the education system, the community, and the public; and

WHEREAS, the School Board recognizes that, across the nation, disparities between the achievement of other students and that of Black students persist, even though these students have the same academic potential, and all bring uniquely valuable perspectives and experiences to our classrooms.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that The School Board of Broward County, Florida, hereby recognizes the powerful impact that acceptance and tolerance have in the cognitive and social development of students and its role as an essential component of a comprehensive and complete education. We are committed to continuing to address systemic racism towards Black students by fostering culturally respectful school settings and implementing policies that embrace inclusion and diversity. To this end, the School Board will continue to equitably invest resources for our students and their families to achieve marked and measurable improvements for Black students.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Broward County Public Schools adopts this resolution and commits to continue taking the following actions:

- *Ask all staff members to encourage all students to exhibit actions that will help promote dignity and respect; rejecting all forms of bullying and discrimination of families of all backgrounds.*
- *Dedicate appropriate resources – such as utilizing academic materials that align with state standards, creating or adding staff positions and providing suitable facilities that allow our students to explore their curiosities for the culture and customs of others.*

Given at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this 23rd day of June 2020.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: _____
Donna P. Korn, School Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Robert W. Runcie, Superintendent of Schools