

MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution No. 16/17-8

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month – September, 2016

WHEREAS, Suicide is the fourth leading cause of death among youth between 10 and 14 years of age. However, suicide is preventable, and

WHEREAS, the Mt. Diablo Unified School District is committed to helping schools develop systems of support and interventions that focus on meeting the academic, social and emotional needs of students, and

WHEREAS, the Mt. Diablo Unified School District recognizes that safe school climates share an important relationship with academic achievement, absenteeism, truancy, and health outcomes.

WHEREAS, a study of 20,000 students in grades 7-12 found that school connectedness was the only school-related factor that consistently protected students from engaging in unhealthy behaviors.

WHEREAS, the Mt. Diablo school staff fully supports Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. Staff will develop a Crisis Intervention Plan which includes:

- School staff will work to create an environment where students feel safe sharing such information.
- School psychologist and other crisis team personnel, including the school counselor and school administrator will be trained to intervene when a student is identified as at risk for suicide.
- When appropriate, trained staff will conduct suicide risk assessment, inform parents, provide recommendations and referrals to community and referrals to community services, provide follow up counseling and support at school.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District declares September as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education encourages parents/guardians and the community to support the work of staff to help prevent suicides.

Cheryl Hansen, President

Debra Mason, Vice President

Brian Lawrence, Board Member

Linda Mayo, Board Member

Barbara Oaks, Board Member

Date