

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE VISTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Resolution No. 18-33**

**Resolution of the School Board Demanding Federal Gun Control Action to prevent death and injury.**

**WHEREAS**, Gun violence in the United States, resulting in over 30,000 deaths annually and 80,000 non-fatal injuries, including homicides, suicides, and accidental shootings, is unacceptable and demands immediate attention and action; and

**WHEREAS**, Senseless and tragic mass shootings at places such as schools, colleges, and universities; movie theatres; music festivals; hospitals and medical clinics; shopping malls; and religious institutions have highlighted the dangers of and clearly demonstrates that gun-related violence can occur any place at any time; and

**WHEREAS**, Community violence, which is often gun violence that occurs in a community but does not directly impact a child, still negatively impacts learning, health, and behavior, interfering with the ability of students to succeed in school and in life<sup>2</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, The crisis of gun violence in our country necessitates a sustained, coordinated, and collaborative effort involving entire communities, elected officials at every level of government, law enforcement, and the entire criminal justice system; and

**WHEREAS**, We strive to use data to make informed decisions about public policy and must also look to the evidence about gun violence to make rational choices about the gun control policies needed to protect our children and their safety; and

**WHEREAS**, Elected officials must commit to closing gaps in the current patchwork of regulation, including those gaps that enable felons, people convicted of domestic violence, children, those found to be a danger to themselves or others, and other prohibited persons to access firearms, and those that allow the trafficking of illegal guns; and

**WHEREAS**, Since the Sandy Hook Massacre in 2012, where twenty 6- and 7-year-old children and six members of the school's staff were murdered by a single gunman using a semi-automatic handgun and semi-automatic rifle, there have been more than 200 school shootings nationwide with 138 people killed and another 300 people injured<sup>3</sup>, shattering communities and leaving emotional scars; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Vista School Unified School District Board of Trustees demands action from our State and Federal Representatives to adopt stricter controls governing the sale, transfer, possession, manufacturing, and distribution of all firearms, dangerous weapons, and ammunition; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That those stricter controls include not only comprehensive and thorough background checks of all purchases of firearms, including curios and relics; dangerous weapons; and ammunition; and include the purchase of those items facilitated through the internet and at gun shows; but also an outright ban on semi-automatic firearms, high-capacity magazines, armor-piercing ammunition, bump stocks, and any other equipment, alteration, or modification that would increase a firearm's capacity for ammunition or rate of fire; as well as reasonable waiting periods and mandated training in the safe use of guns; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the Vista Unified School District supports organized student and adult ally action to amplify students' voices and work toward creating a future where children are no longer murdered in schools; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That Vista Unified School District supports and will implement programs that help identify warning signs, recognize suicide warning signs and help create pro-active steps among students and staff; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, be it resolved that the Vista School Board calls upon the United States Congress and state legislatures, to prioritize the protection of students and school system employees by passing legislation that more effectively regulates access to firearms in the interest of public safety, funds public-health research on firearms-related issues, and advances mental health supports.”

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of the Vista Unified School District demands Federal Gun Control Action to prevent death and injury.


PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board on March 8, 2018 at a duly noticed meeting by the following vote:

AYES: 4

NOES: 1

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

I,  , Clerk of the Board of Education of the Vista Unified School District, HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution passed and adopted by the Board at a regularly called and conducted meeting held on said date.

WITNESSED my hand this 8 day of March, 2018.