

Transylvania County School Board of Education Resolution in Support of Israel and Denouncing Hamas, Hezbollah and the Iranian backed Houthis

Whereas, the Transylvania County School Board of Education is committed to promoting peace, understanding, and cooperation among nations and communities;

Whereas, the modern State of Israel has a long history as a democratic nation in the Middle East, with a commitment to democratic values, human rights, and the rule of law;

Whereas, the State of Israel has a long history which predates the May 14 1948 date when the Jewish People's Council declared the establishment of the State of Israel;

Whereas, the earliest known archaeological artifact to mention the word "Israel" as a collective is the Merneptah Stele of ancient Egypt (dated to the late 13th century BCE);

Whereas, the borders of the State of Israel are recorded in many passages of the Torah, most broadly in Genesis 15 and Exodus 23, and more clearly in Numbers 34 and Ezekiel 47;

Whereas, the Transylvania County School Board of Education condemns acts of violence and terrorism that harm innocent civilians, disrupt peace, and hinder progress in the region;

Whereas, Hamas, Hezbollah and the Iranian backed Houthis have been designated as terrorist organizations by various countries and international bodies due to their involvement in acts of violence and terrorism;

Whereas, the Transylvania County School Board of Education stands for the principles of peaceful dialogue, cooperation, and a two-state solution for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict;

Whereas, we support efforts to bring about a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, which includes the right of both Israelis and Palestinians to live in peace and security;

Whereas, we firmly denounce the firing of rockets by Hamas, Hezbollah and the Iranian backed Houthis into civilian areas, endangering innocent lives and undermining peace efforts;

Whereas, we call upon all parties involved to engage in peaceful negotiations and diplomatic efforts to resolve conflicts in the region;

Whereas, we urge all nations to work together to promote peace and security for the people of Israel and the wider Middle East;

Whereas, the Transylvania County School Board of Education recognizes the rich cultural diversity and contributions of the Jewish community to our county and society;

Whereas, we extend our support to those affected by conflicts in the Middle East and reaffirm our commitment to fostering understanding and tolerance;

Whereas, we believe in the power of education to promote understanding and peace, and we encourage initiatives that promote dialogue and mutual understanding;

Whereas, we affirm our commitment to standing against all forms of discrimination and prejudice in our community;

Whereas, we express our heartfelt hope for a peaceful resolution of the conflicts in the Middle East and for the well-being and prosperity of all its people;

Whereas, we join our voices with those around the world in praying for lasting peace and reconciliation;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Transylvania County School Board of Education that we express our support for Israel and denounce acts of violence by Hamas, Hezbollah and the Iranian backed Houthis, and we call for peaceful dialogue and a just and lasting solution to conflicts in the Middle East.

Prayer for Peace:

May the blessings of peace and understanding prevail in the world, and may all nations find the path to reconciliation and harmony. Amen.