

RESOLUTION NO. 58-21
School Safety and Responsible Firearm Storage

WHEREAS, Evidence strongly suggests that secure firearm storage is an essential component to any effective strategy to keep schools and students safe;

WHEREAS, An estimated 4.6 million American children live in households with at least one loaded, unlocked firearm;

WHEREAS, Every year, nearly 350 children under the age of 18 unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else; roughly one unintentional shooting per day, and 77 percent of these incidents take place inside a home;

WHEREAS, Another 590 children die by gun suicide each year, most often using guns belonging to a family member;

WHEREAS, In incidents of gun violence on school grounds, 79 percent of active shooters are current students or recent graduates, and 78 percent of shooters under the age of 18 obtained their guns from their own home, a relative's home, or from friends;

WHEREAS, Research shows that secure firearm storage practices are associated with up to an 85 percent reduction in the risk of self-inflicted and unintentional firearm injuries among children and teens;

WHEREAS, The U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center recommends the importance of appropriate storage of weapons because many school attackers used firearms acquired from their homes;

WHEREAS, Across the country, lawmakers, community members, and local leaders are working together to implement public awareness campaigns, such as Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America's Be SMART program, which is endorsed by the National PTA and which encourages secure gun storage practices and highlights the public safety risks of unsecured guns;

WHEREAS, Keeping students, teachers, and staff safe from the threat of gun violence should be the responsibility of all adult stakeholders at each of our school sites;

WHEREAS, State law requires adults to securely store their firearms where a child is likely to gain access to the firearm;

WHEREAS, In order to continue with preventative measures to increase student and school safety, we must act now;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Davis Unified School District will continue to annually update the Student Handbook to include information about parents' legal obligations regarding the secure storage of firearms;

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Davis Unified School District will continue to provide correspondence, in multiple languages, to parents and guardians that explains the importance of secure gun storage and the legal obligations to protect minors from accessing irresponsibly stored guns, to be included in annual registration materials at each school site; and, finally;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Davis Unified School District will continue to work with local law enforcement agencies, health agencies, and nonprofits to collaborate and increase efforts to inform District parents of their obligations regarding secure storage of firearms in their homes.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Davis Unified School District Board of Education on this 3rd day of June 2021 by the following vote:

Adopted this 3rd day of the month of June in 2021.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

By: _____

Joe DiNunzio

President, Governing Board of the
Davis Joint Unified School District

ATTEST: _____

Superintendent John Bowes, Ed.D.
Secretary, Governing Board of the
Davis Joint Unified School District