

The AIMS Classroom | Rooted in Courageous Community and Engaged with the World

Whereas, historically, anti-Asian bias in the United States has had two streams. First are health-based anxieties that they carried disease. Second are economic anxieties about competition for jobs, which contributed to Congress's passage of the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act and 1930s attacks by Whites on Filipino farmworkers.

Whereas, many think of Asian Americans as the "model minority." This stereotype imagines a monolithic group that is economically well off, excels in school and gets ahead in American society *despite* experiences with racism.

Whereas, the "model minority" stereotype is often used to denigrate African Americans and Latinos by comparison, while silencing Asian American concerns. It also collapses everyone with ancestry from the planet's largest continent into one homogeneous group, despite a host of national origins, religions, cultures, even historical antagonisms, with their only unifying characteristic being that they were assigned to the "Asian" category in the United States.

Whereas, since the start of the pandemic, [about 3 in 10 Asian Americans](#) say they have been mistreated or discriminated against based on their race.

Whereas, recent incidents that target Bay Area Chinese and other Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities, serve as a reminder that the fight against violence rooted in racist and stereotypical animosity continues;

Whereas, interfaith, and interracial gatherings to protest and condemn the racist and violent pain heaped on Bay Area Chinese and AAPI communities have taken place,

Whereas, we here at AIMS Charter School District, wish to join the interfaith and interracial protest of the racial discrimination and violence that is rooted in American history and fueled from a place of fear and hatred;

Whereas, the AIMS Board of Directors, is comprised of people of color, and the desire to do more than simply proffer a resolution that proclaims our support for the Asian and AAPI community, as well as express our deep disdain for the stereotypical and racial violence that is, and has been thrust upon our fellow Bay Area family;

Whereas, the current climate of racial/ethnic violence and violence, AIMS Board of Directors, believes that the classroom is the perfect setting to accentuate our common experiences and strength the flows from unity, rather than characterize differences as divisive;

Whereas, the classroom presents the best opportunity to equip students of today and our leaders of tomorrow with the tools to not simply dismantle systematic racism oppression, but to construct a system that strives to serve people with equity, empathy and justice at its core;

Whereas, AIMS Board of Directors, believes that the commitment of the State Department of Education to eventually implement a social studies/history pedagogy rooted in ethnic studies, falls short, as it ignores the pain and violence that the LGBTQ community continues to suffer;

Be it resolved that in the place of fear we use the AIMS classroom as a learning environment that stokes the fires of courage and that in the place of hate we cultivate love for our fellow human beings;

Be it resolved that since the AIMS K-12 way is rooted in the ethos of restorative justice, will stand with the unjustly treated and abused, and fight the tides that seek to incite malice division and hatred;

Be it resolved, that the AIMS Board of Directors strongly believes that the AIMS K-12 Charter School District has a moral, as well as an ethical, and educational challenge to use the classroom to increase the potential that the children we educate embrace the value of our common power and potential, and protect our students from falling prey to the vestiges of racial/ethnic/gender-based and sexual division, hate and violence that plague American history.

Therefore, be it finally resolved that the AIMS Board of Directors, urges the AIMS K-12 educational community to recognize that it can, and must use the classroom to prepare its students to be caring people who embrace the values of democracy, as well as global diversity, social justice, and equity.

Submitted by: Directors – Toni Cook and Adrien Abuyen

Date:

Vote: _____ **Yes** ____ **No** ____ **Abstain**