

Nebraska Equity and Race Resolutions

The following are resolutions adopted by board of educations across Nebraska to address racial and educational inequities. If your district is not listed below but has adopted a resolution, please contact Melissa Lusk at mlusk@nasbonline.org.

The following document contains resolutions adopted by the board of education from:

- [Grand Island Public Schools](#)
- [Lincoln Public Schools](#)
- [Millard Public Schools](#)
- [Raymond Central Public Schools](#)
- [Westside Community Schools](#)

Other equity and race resolutions passed in Nebraska:

- [Nebraska Department of Education](#)
- [University of Nebraska – Lincoln](#)

Grand Island Public Schools

Full resolution at: <https://nebraska.tv/news/local/grand-island-public-schools-board-discusses-resolution-on-racism>

A RESOLUTION TO TRULY COMMIT GIPS TO ELIMINATING RACIAL INJUSTICE WHEREVER IT EXISTS IN OUR DISTRICT WHILE CONTINUING TO PRIORITIZE EQUITY IN ALL ASPECTS OF OUR ACTIONS: Whereas Grand Island Public School’s mission of Every Student, Every Day, A Success - and its embedded student commitments - states we are working for EVERY student without exception;

and

Whereas GIPS has formally adopted a strategic plan with equity embedded throughout all objectives and student success measures, including one objective entirely devoted to equity;

and

Whereas GIPS believes education is the great equalizer for all students - of all races, from all socio-economic levels, from all cultural backgrounds and with all kinds of challenges - and because of this we are dedicated to eliminating racial injustice at all levels and in all areas of our district;

and

Whereas GIPS is dedicated to providing early learning experiences for all children, including the most vulnerable children in our community, because we know early childhood education can make the largest long-term impact on all students’ education and life-long career success;

and

Whereas GIPS has invested in elementary education, both in and out of the classroom, to provide learning for all students, particularly those without access to before and after school learning opportunities, so as to offer enriching activities to all children;

and

Whereas GIPS helps middle school students and families acquire early awareness of post-secondary potential, with the assistance of our GEAR UP PROMISE program, to create highly effective learners motivated to graduate from high school and achieve success in college and career;

and

Whereas GIPS has launched the Academies of Grand Island Senior High to create small learning communities based on student interest where they are seen, supported and connected; creating a level playing field by giving students of all walks the same chance to earn scholarships, internships, apprenticeships and other college and career readiness experiences;

and

Whereas GIPS recognizes the value of training our staff on culturally responsive teaching practices and have implemented initiatives to diversify our staff, such as the PathBack Program to encourage our students to come back to GIPS to teach when they finish college;

and

Whereas GIPS, this past year, began the task of conducting empathy interviews with students, staff and community members to gain a better understanding of the unique perspective of different races in order to make better decisions from a district level on equity;

Therefore, we as a united Board of Education

Resolve to rededicate ourselves to the actions outlined above for Every Student, Every Day, A Success because we know they are the best defense we can provide our children against the racial injustice they face;

and

Reinforce our belief ALL students can learn and deserve equitable access to high-quality learning experiences;

and

Recognize, even as we acknowledge all of these things, we must do more to address our individual and district-wide biases, to truly commit GIPS to anti-racism and eliminating racial injustice wherever it exists in our district while continuing to prioritize equity in all aspects of our actions.

Lincoln Public Schools

Full statement: <https://www.lps.org/post/detail.cfm?id=14254>

Lincoln Public Schools continues to embrace equity, inclusion, and the value of diversity. We acknowledge that in schools across the country, including at LPS, the outcomes for all of our students are not equitable. At LPS, we will continue to identify and address practices that are contributing to these inequitable outcomes, and work to eradicate racism. That is why Lincoln Public Schools and the Lincoln Board of Education identified equity as a primary focus this last school year, and we pledge to move forward with the following steps:

- Improving school engagement for students.
- Working collaboratively with families and community members.
- Promoting equity in supporting the needs of historically underserved students including students from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds.
- Addressing the disproportionate representation of minority students in gifted and advanced placement classes.
- Addressing disproportionality in school discipline.
- Supporting dropout prevention and reentry opportunities.
- Providing additional professional development in the area of equity for all staff members.

- Hiring diverse staff members.
- Collaborating with the Midwest and Plains Equity Assistance Center to gain an outside perspective on district practices and next steps in supporting students.

Millard Public Schools

Full statements for both the board and superintendent can be found:

<https://www.mpsomaha.org/about/district-news/statements-regarding-racism>

Board Statement Regarding Racism:

The racist acts we have seen throughout our country, our city and our community are abhorrent. We see and stand united against racist behavior. We will not tolerate behavior that diminishes the worth of others.

Education is key to understanding. We recognize our role and also our shortcomings. Much work still needs to be done to make sure every child, every family and every staff member truly feels a part of Millard. We stand ready to listen and take action.

Raymond Central Public Schools

The Raymond Central community is committed to providing a positive, challenging, learning environment which prepares each individual student to be a responsible citizen in an ever-changing society. In response to the current climate of racial disparity and injustice, the Raymond Central Board of Education and Superintendent are committed to ACTION and CHANGE. We realize that solutions reside in the hands of the people. As leaders we will:

- Work toward ensuring a safe and nurturing environment
- Promote equity and equal opportunity for all
- Call out racism and privilege
- Increase knowledge on social justice
- Support diversity and inclusiveness
- Support culturally responsive training as needed

Westside Community Schools

Like so many in our Westside Community, we have been disheartened by the death of George Floyd and the pain wrought by racial disparity and injustice in our country. Our minds and hearts are with all of our students and staff members that are struggling to make sense of the world around us. We are struggling with it, too. Here is our pledge to you:

- We will continue to love and educate any student and family that walks through our doors.
- We will continue to strive to become better practitioners of equity, acceptance and appreciation of the many colors, races, religions and beliefs that comprise our Westside Community.

- We will commit ourselves to the deeper study, education and discussion of equity, and to a greater appreciation of our similarities and differences with candor, sensitivity and understanding, at all levels of our organization, and in all of our classrooms.

We cannot be Westside, unless #weareALLWestside

Nebraska Department of Education

Resolution, adopted in 2018 by the State Board of Education can be accessed at:

https://cdn.education.ne.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Resolution_on_Equity_Education.pdf

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Resolution, adopted in 2020 by the faculty senate, along with additional equity resources, available at:

<https://www.unl.edu/facultysenate/senate/Equity%2C%Diversity%2C%20Inclusion%20Statement.pdf>