SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.1
IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER,
RESOLUTION NO.__________________

Denver Public Schools as a Trauma-Informed School District

WHEREAS, Denver Public Schools is committed to our mission to provide all students the opportunity to achieve the knowledge and skills necessary to become contributing citizens in our diverse society; and

WHEREAS, the Board is committed to removing barriers that impact student growth and achievement and provided prevention and intervention health initiatives within the framework for our Whole Child work; and

WHEREAS, Denver Public Schools is a state leader in suicide prevention and threat response as we work to ensure students, parents and educators know the warning signs and how to access support to ensure school community safety; and

WHEREAS, Denver Public Schools has committed to ensuring mental health support for students as we have increased the number of school social workers and school psychologists full time employees (FTE) from 154 FTE in school year 2013-2014 to 262 FTE for the 2017-2018 school year.

WHEREAS, Denver Public Schools has adopted a universal screening, which includes insurance coverage, dental and social-emotional components of screening as well as the health screenings we have been providing to all students in grades, ECE, K, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 12 in order to provide supports and interventions for the Whole Child; and

WHEREAS, Denver Public Schools has been a proactive partner in fostering School-Based Health Clinics in 17 schools to ensure students and their family members have access to mental health, substance prevention, and health care in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Denver Public Schools has fostered strong community-school relationships though the innovative Home Visit Program and the Center for Family Opportunity, to support focusing on the family as a whole to address intergenerational poverty; and

WHEREAS, Denver Public Schools is committed to eliminating the use of suspension and expulsion for our students, including our youngest learners, and providing restorative practices, social emotional learning, and skill building opportunities to support the growth of the Whole Child; and

WHEREAS, Denver Public Schools values proactive strengths-based approaches to support students, families, and educators equitably and honor the diverse experiences of our Denver community and the lived experiences of our students and educators; and

WHEREAS, The District is deeply aware that trauma can contribute to systemic and individualized educational barriers that interfere with emotional and physical health and impede access to education; and

WHEREAS, the board will engage in continued support for both our students and our educators to ensure they feel Supported, are Engaged, feel Safe, are Healthy, are Challenged, and are Socially and Emotionally Intelligent; and
WHEREAS, Denver Public Schools has been a national leader, ensuring a safe, supportive, and welcoming school district for all students, with consideration for those who are currently living with the uncertainty and fear of deportation, whether for themselves or their loved ones

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the District shall be a Trauma-Informed District and shall work in a strategic, culturally-responsive, strength-based preventative way to best meet the needs of our diverse students, families, and educators that mitigates the impact of trauma on the social emotional and academic growth of our students

- The District will design and present to the Board in April a clear multi-tiered scope and sequence that organizes trauma-informed work for the District, including a clear communication protocol for schools impacted by trauma. This work will be closely aligned with the Support of the Whole child.
- The District will consider offering yearly grant dollars to design local, innovative strategies to address trauma;
- The District will support our school communities to develop and implement trauma-informed practices in a proactive, culturally-responsive, and systematic fashion with the intent to positively impact students, educators and communities.
- The District will work collaboratively with the City and County of Denver to encourage a trauma-informed city; and
- The Board, bearing in mind that trauma exposure and impact crosses all segments of society and may often be compounded by the issues of poverty, institutional racism, and other adverse experiences, believes that schools should provide trauma-informed education practices that support students, families, and educators

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The District shall use information from the annual Healthy Kids Colorado Survey and the annual Whole Child Student Perception Survey and other relevant screeners to inform supports for all students in all grade levels who need stronger supports from early childhood through high school

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The District will offer district-wide training, coaching and support in trauma-informed approaches to school communities in order to increase awareness of the impact of adverse childhood experiences, recognize symptoms and behaviors, and ensure success in school and in life