



**DATE:** October 4, 2023

**TO:** Board of Education

**FROM:** Mrs. Kerstin Kramer, Superintendent Chief Learning Officer

**SUBJECT:** Approve Resolution No. 5-2023-2024 – October - National Bullying Prevention Month

**PRESENTED BY:** Annamarie Cohen, Executive Director of Student Services

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### **ACTION REQUESTED**

Approve Resolution No. 5-2023-2024 – October - National Bullying Prevention Month

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

October is recognized as National Bullying Prevention Month and it is important that we take this opportunity to highlight some of the ways that we support anti-bullying in our schools. Clearly every employee of the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District is committed to the physical, social and emotional wellbeing of our students and to that end we continually enhance and evaluate our anti-bullying education and interventions. School sites identify an annual school climate goal in their school accountability plan and use data from annual surveys to assess progress. Our discipline policies have strong anti-bullying provisions and we encourage reporting through open dialogues with students and parents and our WeTip anonymous reporting system.

Prevention education is essential. The Second Step Social Skills Curriculum is used in kindergarten through eighth grade classrooms to teach students about anti-bullying. Second Step is a classroom-based, social skills program designed to reduce impulsive, high-risk/aggression behaviors and to increase students' social emotional competence and other protective factors. The program specifically supports an anti-bullying school culture by giving students strong character education curriculum. Counseling groups, assemblies and parent education nights are used to supplement the curriculum and reinforce appropriate social skill development.

The Wellness Program is another part of the system of comprehensive supports provided by the Student Services Department. Wellness staff and volunteers work closely with school counselors, psychologists, nurses, and teachers to provide supports for high school and middle school students. The Wellness Program facilitates bullying prevention programming that builds stronger connections between students, staff, and the community, resulting in a safer school culture. Support groups, clubs and Link Crew mentoring are but a few of the specific programs used to support students. The Wellness Centers at the middle and high schools also create a welcoming and safe space for struggling students to connect with staff that will listen and connect them to a variety of school and community resources.

We encourage all of our students to make positive choices that lead to endless opportunities. Bullying is a choice that leads students to serious social and disciplinary consequence that we all want to prevent. The Tahoe Truckee Unified School District staff is committed to actively addressing bullying and this resolution will engage teachers and parents in raising awareness.

**RESOURCES REQUIRED:** N/A

**PREPARED BY:** Becca Wing, Administrative Assistant, for Annamarie Cohen, Executive Director of Student Services