



RESOLUTION 2012/13-30

Board of Education
Linda M. Trujillo, President
Steven J. Carrillo, Vice President
Lorraine T. Price, Secretary
Glenn Wikle, Member
Susan Duncan, Member

Support for Universal Background Checks, a Ban on Both Assault Rifle Weapons and Excessive Capacity Ammunition, and Support of Programs Geared Towards the Education of Gun Safety Awareness

1 WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has concluded that firearm-related injury and death to
2 children is a significant health problem. AAP recognizes the importance of education to reduce the death and injury of
3 children 0-19; and
4

5 WHEREAS, The mass shootings at Tucson, Virginia Tech, Aurora, Fort Hood and Sandy Hook all have one common
6 thread, the use of high capacity magazines with over ten rounds. The combined impact of these five shootings is 619
7 bullets, 29 minutes, 90 people dead and 60 wounded. 26 of those killed were children under the age of 10.
8

9 WHEREAS, a 2013 study by the Children’s Defense Fund revealed that a child or teen dies or is injured by guns
10 every 30 minutes in the United States. In 2010, 18,270 children and teens died or were injured by guns at a rate of fifty
11 incidents each day. In 2009, firearm related deaths in the United States accounted for 1 in every 3 child deaths; and
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13 WHEREAS, one of the strongest predictors of adolescent suicide is a gun in the house (Brent 2010). For the last two
14 decades, suicide rates in New Mexico have been nearly double the aggregate U.S. rates – with firearms the number one
15 method of choice. A 2004 study conducted by New Mexico Hurts revealed that suicide was the leading cause of death
16 in 10-34 year olds in the state; and
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18 WHEREAS, AAP has determined that firearm availability in homes plays a large role in youth suicide while laws
19 reducing child access are associated with a lower rate in adolescent suicide¹; and
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21 WHEREAS, In 2011, National Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance revealed that 5.1 % of students in grades 9 through
22 12 carried guns in the past month. In 2005, a survey determined that 16% of New Mexican students in 9-12 grades
23 carried a gun to school in the prior month; and
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25 WHEREAS, a 2006 survey and analysis revealed the startling fact that in American homes with children 13 to 17
26 years of ages, firearms remained unlocked 41.7% of the time,² while a 2007, study revealed that 64.5% of all
27 unintentional firearm fatalities took place in a home or an apartment with the most common occurrence being victims
28 playing with a gun, (29.7 %) and 14.3% showing a gun to another person.
29

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SANTA FE BOARD OF EDUCATION that it supports
31 universal background checks, a ban on both assault weapons and excessive capacity magazines. In addition the board
32 supports educational programs that address gun safety awareness.
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ADOPTED this 24th day of June, 2013

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38 Linda M. Trujillo
39 Board of Education President
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Attested by:
Lorraine T. Price
Board of Education Secretary

1 Webster DW, Vernick JS, Zeoli AM, Manganello JA. Association between youth-focused fire- arm laws and youth suicides. JAMA. 2004;292 (5):594-601
2 Johnson RM, Miller M, Vriniotis M, Azrael D, Hemenway D. Are household firearms stored less safely in homes with adoles- cents? Analysis of a national random sample of parents. Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med. 2006;160(8):788-792