



## RESOLUTION REGARDING GUN LEGISLATION

**WHEREAS**, the Sun Prairie Area School District (SPASD) is the 13<sup>th</sup> largest school district in Wisconsin, serves approximately 8,500 children and employs about 1,350 staff members; and

**WHEREAS**, the SPASD educates students from early childhood through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, as well as students with disabilities in our 18-21 Transition Program, in 14 schools plus 10 community-based sites and five community school sites; and

**WHEREAS**, our community is in shock and mourning the senseless death of 11 year old Anisa Scott; and

**WHEREAS**, Anisa Scott was a beloved member of our school community and her death highlights the need for sensible gun legislation; and

**WHEREAS**, compared to other high-income countries, children in the United States aged 5-14 are 14 times and US adolescents and young adults aged 15-24 are 23 times more likely to be killed with guns; and

**WHEREAS**, from Columbine to Virginia Tech to Sandy Hook to Parkland, the lives of hundreds of students and school employees have been lost to mass school shootings; and

**WHEREAS**, firearm-related deaths are the third leading cause of death overall among US children aged 1 to 17 years and the second leading cause of injury-related death; and

**WHEREAS**, about nineteen US children per day are killed by or receive emergency treatment for gunshot wounds; and

**WHEREAS**, the SPASD Board of Education, administrators, educators, staff, parents, and community members of the SPASD are united in our efforts to provide safe learning environments for all students, staff, parents, visitors, and volunteers; and

**WHEREAS**, our students, staff, and community members have a right to live in a community where they are not worried about the threat of being shot; and

**WHEREAS**, the responsibility for preventing gun violence incidents cannot be relegated to school districts alone; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sun Prairie Area School District believes that school and community safety is not a political issue and our legislative leaders at the state and federal level have the ability and responsibility to act on behalf of our children;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Sun Prairie Area School District Board of Education and SPASD Administration support the immediate passage of comprehensive legislation at the state and federal level that effectively addresses our nation's pervasive gun problem, including but not limited to, legislation that would make universal background checks mandatory, banning assault weapons, and preventing the possibility that any person would ever possess a gun on school grounds.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Board of Education of the Sun Prairie Area School District, has passed this resolution by a vote of 5-1 this 24th day of August, 2020.

**Board Members Voting Yes:**

Carol Sue Albright  
Caren Diedrich  
Bryn Horton  
Marilyn Ruffin  
Steve Schroeder

**Board Members Voting No:**

Dave Hoekstra