

**Resolution No. 6130**

Resolution in Support of Re-Centering the PPS Student Experience

Accordingly, the Board confirms its four goals for universally improving educational outcomes that specifically focus on improving academic growth on student groups that the district has persistently failed: Black and Native American students.

- H. A growing body of research on the impact of the physical and emotional well-being of students on their academic outcomes and personal development, reinforces the notion that PPS has a primary obligation to provide school environments that are healthy, affirming, and conducive to learning. But 18 months of consultation with many hundreds of students in high schools and middle schools revealed that an overwhelming number of students – particularly students of color – expressed a profound sense of insecurity and fear over the presence of armed police in schools, a sentiment toward law enforcement that is generally expressed across the country by Black, Native, and communities of color. We support the Superintendent’s decision to end the presence of School Resource Officers in schools and will work with our community to ensure our students, especially our Black and Native students, attend schools where they feel a strong sense of safety and belonging.
- I. Institutions – especially Portland Public Schools – have a moment, an opportunity to lead, not with race-neutral plans, but with an anti-racist agenda that begins and amplifies an intergenerational healing process among students, their families, and our community.

### **Resolved**

Therefore, be it resolved that the Portland Public Schools Board:

- A. Declares that the lives of Black students and our Black community matter and commits to working with the Superintendent and the Portland community to create the conditions for every student, especially our Black and Indigenous students who experience the greatest challenges, to realize the vision of the Graduate Portrait.
- B. Strongly upholds the Superintendent’s charge to re-center a student’s sense of belonging and safety by encouraging positive relationships and a supportive and affirming culture and climate in every school.
- C. Endorses the Superintendent’s decision to immediately discontinue the regular presence of School Resource Officers on Portland Public Schools school campuses.
- D. Commends the Superintendent and the District’s leadership for its bold commitment to center the lived experiences of our students and apply a racial equity and social justice lens to all decisions and directs the Superintendent to continue the work of building meaningful relationships with our students, families, Racial Equity and Social Justice Community Based Partners, labor leaders, and school-based staff to collectively dismantle systems of oppression that hurt our school communities, especially our students, families, and staff of color.
- E. Directs the Superintendent to provide regular public updates to the School Board on the progress made towards implementing the charge to School District Leaders on June 4, 4-racist1a

