

RIALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Dr. John R. Kazalunas Education Center
182 East Walnut Avenue
Rialto, California

NANCY G. O'KELLEY
President

JOSEPH W. MARTINEZ
Clerk

EDGAR MONTES
Member



DINA WALKER
Vice President

JOSEPH AYALA
Member

AVIONC' DOUGLAS
Student Board Member

CUAUHTÉMOC AVILA, ED.D.
Superintendent

IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE

The **Special Board Meeting** of June 26, 2020 will be held **TELEPHONICALLY** and available to the public via streamlined-audio only.

For those that wish to participate in the meeting and/or make public comments,
Please follow the steps set forth below:

- To access the Board Meeting via live stream, go to “Our Board”, scroll down to “Board Meeting Videos” and click play.
- The agenda may be accessed on our website by also going to “Our Board” and scrolling down to “Agendas and Minutes”.
- Although not required, for those who wish to make a public comment at this meeting, please email your comments to Martha Degortari, Executive Administrative Agent, at mdegorta@rialto.k12.ca.us, or leave a detailed message with your comment and call back number at (909) 820-7700, ext. 2124, no later than **1:00 p.m.**, the day of the Board meeting.
- To listen to this Board meeting in Spanish, please visit our website at www.rialto.k12.ca for instructions.



**RIALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA**

June 26, 2020

**Dr. John R. Kazalunas Education Center
182 East Walnut Avenue
Rialto, California**

Board Members:

**Nancy G. O'Kelley, President
Dina Walker, Vice-President
Joseph Martinez, Clerk
Joseph Ayala, Member
Edgar Montes, Member
Avionc' Douglas, Student Board Member**

Superintendent:

Cuauhtémoc Avila, Ed.D.

Any individual who requires disability-related accommodations or modifications, including auxiliary aids and services, in order to participate in the Board meeting should contact the Superintendent or designee in writing.

Pages

A. OPENING

Call to Order - 3:00 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

C.1 COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Any person wishing to speak on the item on the Agenda will be granted three minutes.

D. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved _____

Seconded _____

Vote by Board Members to adopt the agenda.

_____ Nancy G. O'Kelley

_____ Dina Walker

_____ Joseph W. Martinez

_____ Joseph Ayala

_____ Edgar Montes

Time: _____

E. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

E.1 RESOLUTION NO. 19-20-65 - DECLARING RACISM A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

4

Moved _____

Seconded _____

Adopt Resolution No. 19-20-65 declaring racism a public health crisis.

Vote by Board Members.

_____ Nancy G. O'Kelley

_____ Dina Walker

_____ Joseph W. Martinez

_____ Joseph Ayala

_____ Edgar Montes

F. ADJOURNMENT

Moved _____

Seconded _____

Vote by Board Members to adjourn.

_____ Nancy G. O'Kelley

_____ Dina Walker

_____ Joseph W. Martinez

_____ Joseph Ayala

_____ Edgar Montes

Time: _____



Rialto Unified School District

Board Date: June 26, 2020

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Cuauhtémoc Avila, Ed.D., Superintendent

ITEM: **RESOLUTION NO. 19-20-65
DECLARING RACISM A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 19-20-65
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
THE RIALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

June 26, 2020

The Board recognizes that racism and oppression have dramatically affected Black Americans who have experienced more than 400 years of slavery, genocide, poverty, and forced relocation. Racism and its affects continue to contribute to intergenerational trauma in millions of citizens in the State of California. It can be seen in our education system that refuses to acknowledge America’s attempts to erase Indigenous land and cultures, in our medical system that historically and repeatedly fails Black women and in our law enforcement that has its roots embedded in the enslavement of Black individuals.

WHEREAS, Race is a social construction historically used for the purposes of racial classification; and to advance an ideology that the ideas, thoughts, beliefs, and actions of one racial group are superior to those of other racial group(s);

WHEREAS, Racism is a social system with multiple dimensions, including individual racism, which is internalized or interpersonal, and systemic racism, which is institutional or structural, and is a system of structuring opportunity, and assigning value based on phenotype or an individual’s appearance;

WHEREAS, Structural racism has carried out systematic discrimination and oppression throughout history in the institutional policies and practices of the society that include the enslavement of Black Americans, Japanese internment camps, forced displacement, forced separation of families, confiscation of sacred land and genocide of Indigenous people, unlawful use of black bodies for medical experimentation, forced sterilization of people of color, laws forbidding literacy among those enslaved, punishment for speaking their native language, laws denying the practice of traditional rituals; mass imprisonment and detainment of Black and Brown individuals, police brutality and use of deadly force, and other countless forms of structural racism, all represent racialized trauma and terror and result in long term mental and physical health implications for the survivors , their families, the community at large, and subsequent generations;

WHEREAS, Internalized racism is carried out through racial microaggression, racial bias, racial stereotypes and is manifested as psychological stress through anger, fear, homophobia, depression, somatization, interpersonal sensitivity and anxiety and physiological trauma through hypertension, stroke, heart attack, diabetes, hormonal imbalance, maternal death, premature birth, respiratory diseases, autoimmune diseases, and other health conditions.

WHEREAS, An emerging body of research links structural racism to social determinants of health conditions that include but are not limited to increased exposure to lead, poor air quality, inadequate housing, educational disparities, poverty, food deserts, under-resourced schools, parks and recreational facilities, health care facilities, poor quality of medical care, denial of medical treatment, and inadequate health education;

WHEREAS, Structural racism causes persistent racial discrimination in housing, education, employment, transportation, and criminal justice, and unfairly disadvantages communities of color, thereby depleting the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources;

WHEREAS, the recent unconscionable and senseless murders of Black individuals in the United States and recent increase in reports of racist hate crimes and racial incidents nationwide, including many committed against those of Asian descent during the COVID-19 pandemic, have once again cast a light on the fact that racism continues to exist in our country;

WHEREAS, A growing body of evidence shows that reconnecting people to the vibrant strengths of their ancestry and culture, helping people process the grief of past traumas, and creating new historical narratives can have healing effects for those experiencing current and historical trauma;

WHEREAS, the principles of moral and ethical behavior and civic education are incorporated in all areas of the curriculum and exemplified in the conduct of activities in the classroom, on campus, and in the community as dictated by Board Policy 0100; and

Be it Resolved, that the Rialto Unified School District actively participates in the dismantling of racism; and hereby agrees to:

- Make a public declaration expressing the need for schools to address racial inequity and implicit biases on their campuses;
- Promote and encourage all policies that prioritize the health of all Black people and people of color, and support local, state, regional, and federal initiatives that advance efforts to dismantle systematic racism and trauma in the school climate such as:
 - Emotional and psychological harm created from exposure to criminalizing practices in school that disproportionately impact students of color.
 - Racial bias, racial exclusion, and discrimination in school practices.
- Implement training in racial equity, implicit bias, and workplace bias for all district personnel as a public health urgency and implement an evaluation similar to SOTES (Student Opinion of Teaching Effectiveness) for teaching staff so that students are able to give feedback on the degree to which these anti-racist trainings are successful
- Incorporate educational efforts to expand understanding of racism and how racism affects individual and population health by including:
 - classes addressing the history of racism in the United States and California;
 - curriculum addressing the history and current affects that racism has in Black communities, Indigenous communities and other communities of color, the

lasting effects of racism and results of intergenerational trauma in the United States and California; and

- Ethnic studies courses
- Address and dismantle racism in schools by incorporating anti-racist practices into school regulations that highlight culture and traditions of communities of color such as healing circles,
- Promote community engagement with organizations that actively engage people on issues of racism, and the intersectional issues racism affects such as:
 - Black and Indigenous LGBTQIA issues,
 - health issues concerning communities of color,
 - civic engagement in communities of color, etc.
- Provide tools to engage actively and authentically with communities of color;
- Commit to review all portions of school policy with a racial equity lens;
- Secure adequate resources to successfully accomplish the above activities by reallocating funds from programs and entities that further racism in schools by overt or implicit bias that precipitates emotional and psychological distress in Black students, Indigenous students and all students of color; and
- That the Superintendent or his designee is directed to comply with the applicable requirements of the Educational Employment Relations Act with respect to the negotiation of the impacts and effects of this Resolution.

APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Rialto Unified School District, San Bernardino County, State of California, this 26th day of June 2020, by the following vote:

Nancy G. O’Kelley, President: AYE: ____ NOE: ____ ABSTAIN: ____ ABSENT: ____

Dina Walker Vice President: AYE: ____ NOE: ____ ABSTAIN: ____ ABSENT: ____

Joseph W. Martinez, Clerk: AYE: ____ NOE: ____ ABSTAIN: ____ ABSENT: ____

Joseph Ayala, Member: AYE: ____ NOE: ____ ABSTAIN: ____ ABSENT: ____

Edgar Montes, Member: AYE: ____ NOE: ____ ABSTAIN: ____ ABSENT: ____

Nancy G. O’Kelley,
President of the Governing Board
of the Rialto Unified School District

I, Cuauhtémoc Avila, Ed.D., Superintendent of Rialto Unified School District of San Bernardino County, California, do hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of the Resolution duly adopted by the Board of Education on June 26, 2020.

Dated: June 26, 2020

Cuauhtémoc Avila, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Submitted by: Cuauhtémoc Avila, Ed.D.