

CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION #19/20-32: Protecting Our Children from Preventable Gun
Violence via Secure Home Firearm Storage

WHEREAS, evidence strongly suggests that secure firearm storage is an essential component to any effective strategy to keep schools and students safe;

WHEREAS, an estimated 4.6 million American children live in households with at least one loaded, unlocked firearm;

WHEREAS, approximately 20 percent of adults in California possess a firearm, and state and local law criminalizes unsafe storage of firearms where minors may be present;

WHEREAS, every year nearly 350 children under the age of 18 unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else and that is roughly one unintentional shooting per day, where 77 percent of these incidents take place inside a home;

WHEREAS, guns are used in 51% of suicide deaths in America and access to a gun triples the risk of suicide death;

WHEREAS, more than two children and teens a day shoot and kill themselves, half of whom are under the age of 16, and with research showing that easy access to guns for this subpopulation is a driver of these suicide rates;

WHEREAS, research shows that secure firearm storage practices are associated with up to an 84 percent reduction in the risk of self-inflicted and unintentional firearm injuries among children and teens;

WHEREAS, the Borderline shooting in November 2018, which resulted in the loss of 12 lives, made personal for our community the pervasive tragedy of mass gun violence and raised awareness of the need for community solutions focused on firearm safety;

WHEREAS, school shootings have become an all-too-frequent occurrence in modern America, including 180 shootings at 177 different school sites during the decade 2009-18, resulting in 356 victims and 117 deaths – and including the tragedies at Sandy Hook Elementary in Connecticut and Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida;

WHEREAS, in incidents of gun violence on school grounds, 75 percent of active shooters are current students or recent graduates, while 78 percent of shooters under the age of 18 obtained their guns from their own home, a relative's home, or from friends;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center recommends the importance of appropriate storage of weapons because many school attackers used firearms acquired from their homes;

WHEREAS, CVUSD schools are required to comply with California Education Code Sections 32280-32290, which mandate the preparation of school safety plans addressing violence prevention, emergency preparedness, traffic safety and crisis response;

WHEREAS, lawmakers, community members, non-profit organizations, and local leaders nationwide are working together to implement public awareness campaigns which encourage secure gun storage practices and highlight the public safety risks of unsecured guns;

WHEREAS, providing information regarding secure home firearm storage designed to help protect students, teachers and staff from the threat of gun violence is the responsibility of school district leadership;

WHEREAS, in order to move forward with measures that will increase school safety, we must act now;

THEREFORE, let it be resolved that the Conejo Valley Unified School District Board of Trustees directs the Superintendent and staff to update the Student Handbook to include information for parents about the secure storage of firearms -- explaining the importance of secure gun storage, and parents' obligation to protect minors from accessing irresponsibly stored guns;

THEREFORE, let it be resolved that the Conejo Valley Unified School District Board of Trustees and the Superintendent will continue to work with local law enforcement agencies, health agencies and non-profits to inform District parents about secure storage of firearms in their homes.

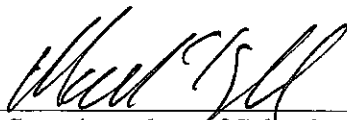
Passed and adopted this 5th day of May 2020, by the Governing Board of the Conejo Valley Unified School District.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Absent: 0

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly passed and adopted by said Board of Education at the regular scheduled Board of Education meeting held on May 5, 2020.

Conejo Valley Unified School District

Conejo Valley Unified School District



Superintendent of Schools



Clerk of the Board