

Resolution No. 1 Shoreline Education Association

Stop Gun Violence in Our Schools

WHEREAS the Shoreline Educations Association (SEA) recognizes the importance of civic engagement on or off campus, and

WHEREAS SEA recognizes that gun violence presents a continuing danger to the education and safety of students, faculty, and staff. Due to the scourge of gun violence, the lives of hundreds of students and school employees have been needlessly lost in schools such as Sandy Hook Elementary in 2012, Seattle Pacific University in 2014, Marysville-Pilchuck High School in 2014, Marjory Stoneman Douglas and in Santa Fe, TX in 2018, and

WHEREAS SEA recognizes that the passage of sensible gun laws is critical to protect our children, our schools, and our community from such violence, and

WHEREAS SEA shares the concerns of students, parents, teachers, leadership, and staff regarding safety in our schools and is committed to ensuring that we protect our students, staff, and community in accordance with the district's mission, vision, and guiding principles, and

WHEREAS SEA acknowledges that educators and staff in the Shoreline School District work every day supporting our students academically and emotionally, and that additionally, burdening teachers with the responsibility of carrying a firearm or developing firearms training skills as part of their professional duties diverts us from the jobs at the core of our mission.

Therefore, be it RESOLVED that, in support of school safety for our students, staff and community, the Shoreline Education Association:

requests our Superintendent and School Board to:

- continue to review, assess, and implement policies to ensure school and student safety,
- adequately fund and staff an increase in school-based mental health services and,
- establish threat assessment teams that include mental health and law enforcement partners

And that further, SEA supports the rights of students to advocate for their own school safety, including peaceful demonstration and speech. We also support staff as they work to ensure the safety of the students who choose to participate in such demonstrations, as well as those who choose not to participate.

SEA calls upon the Washington State Legislature and Governor and the United States Congress and President to enact and enforce legislation that

- effectively regulates access to firearms in the interests of school safety;
- funds physical improvements needed to ensure schools are not easily accessed by those not authorized to be on campus when school is in session;
- funds mental health support needed to identify and counsel students who may be at risk of causing harm to others; and
- includes the viewpoints of students, teachers, and school leaders as it develops and enacts such legislation.

SEA commits to advocate for these legislative actions and to make itself available to support the Washington State Legislature and Governor and United States Congress and President as needed in advancing the cause of student safety in our country.