

RESOLUTION NO. XX-XX
MT. SAN ANTONIO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LGBTQ+ STUDENTS AND
CELEBRATING LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH

WHEREAS, members of the Mt. San Antonio Community College District support and unconditionally protect the rights, freedoms, and equality of those who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Non-Binary, Gender Nonconforming, Queer, and other sexual and gender marginalized groups; and

WHEREAS, Mt. SAC recognizes that LGBTQ+ Pride Month is intended to celebrate our dynamic LGBTQ+ community, raise awareness of services, and foster dialogue to promote a healthy, safe, and prosperous climate for our LGBTQ+ students, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators; and

WHEREAS, those who took a stand for human rights and dignity at the Stonewall Inn in New York City on June 28, 1969, are among the pioneers within this movement; and we proudly recognize that women of color were key leaders in the Stonewall Uprising; and

WHEREAS, we humbly honor the contributions of Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, Miss Major Griffin-Gracy, and Stormé DeLarverie, Black and Latina leaders of the Stonewall Uprising; and

WHEREAS, the Stonewall Uprising has been followed by many positive, progressive historic moments; and this decisive moment in history was followed by the creation of gay rights organizations in every major city in the United States within two years of the Stonewall Uprising; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ students attending Mt. San Antonio College follow all educational and career paths. These students are the future leaders of our community, thus Mt. SAC is fervently committed to their educational, social, and personal success and ALWAYS seeks to fulfill this mission; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ people have made important and lasting contributions to our community, state, and nation in every field of endeavor, including, but not limited to, business, medicine, law, humanities, science, literature, politics, education, music, philanthropy, athletics, arts, and culture, that enrich our national life; and

WHEREAS, for the first time ever, the Human Rights Campaign has declared a state of emergency for LGBTQ+ people as a result of an unprecedented increase in state anti-LGBTQ+ legislation throughout the nation, with the American Civil Liberties Union tracking 491 anti-LGBTQ bills in the United States so far in 2023; and

WHEREAS, PEN America has recorded 1,477 instances of books banned in the 2022-2023 academic year, an overwhelming number of which targeted books containing LGBTQ+ characters or themes; and

WHEREAS, Mt. SAC seeks to provide a safe environment that supports learning and encourages all students to pursue their goals and successfully achieve them. The Mt. San Antonio Community College District does not tolerate sex discrimination—including sexual harassment and violence—and is committed to empowering all students, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators to take actions to eliminate sex discrimination on our campuses and within our workplaces and to know how to get assistance if sex discrimination occurs; and

WHEREAS, Mt. SAC is committed to providing equitable student learning and achievement, academic excellence, and workforce development by delivering high-quality educational programs and support services to our diverse LGBTQ+ student population; and

WHEREAS, Mt. SAC provides gender-neutral restrooms that can be used by all gender identities and expressions. Gender-neutral restrooms benefit many different people including those assisting persons requiring an attendant, parents with differently gendered children, and transgender and gender nonconforming persons; and

WHEREAS, Mt. SAC has been making administrative and procedural changes to utilize lived names and pronouns of students and staff; and

WHEREAS, the Mt. SAC Pride Center offers LGBTQ+ students an open and affirming space, celebratory and educational programming for students and the larger community, and resources for LGBTQ+ students through its academic and mental health support, food pantry, closet, basic health supplies; and

WHEREAS, Mt. SAC continues to seek opportunities to participate in programs and events that engender community pride, foster a strong sense of community, and promote awareness and wellness for our LGBTQ+ students, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators; and

WHEREAS, Mt. SAC continues to improve the environment for all students, faculty, classified professionals, administrators, and visitors at its campuses by developing and supporting inclusive understandings of gender and sexuality through advising, advocacy, curriculum, and mentorship; and

WHEREAS, on June 8, 2023, the Mt. SAC Academic Senate adopted Resolution 2023-05 In Support of the Campus LGBTQIA+ Students, Staff, Faculty, Administrators, and the Community;

WHEREAS, while there has been remarkable progress toward acceptance and equality in the last decade, members of the LGBTQ+ community in the United States and around the world still face an unacceptable level of discrimination and violence; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mt. SAC Board of Trustees continues to review and update policies, procedures, and practices to bolster protections of LGBTQ+ students, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators, freedom of sexual orientation and gender identification/expression, and freedom from anti-LGBTQ+ harassment, discrimination, and defamation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mt. SAC Board of Trustees supports legislation that creates a safe, supportive and accepting environment in schools and colleges, specifically with training for educators and other school-related professionals to support all students, as well as updated health education standards that deal with the issues of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mt. SAC Board of Trustees supports the adoption, implementation, and enforcement of policies that support the safety and educational achievement of LGBTQ+ students, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators by promising to uphold values of anti-censorship, anti-book banning, and best practices around diversity, equity, inclusion, social justice, and anti-racism; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mt. SAC Board of Trustees supports the funding of training for employees to deepen understanding of LGBTQ+ issues and policy implementation to support LGBTQ+ students, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators, including training specific to the needs of transgender and gender-nonconforming students and employees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mt. SAC Board of Trustees encourages the celebration of LGBTQ+ Pride Month to provide a continuing opportunity for all people in the United States to learn about the discrimination and inequality that has faced, and continues to face, LGBTQ+ people and further supports the spirit of LGBTQ+ Pride throughout the entire year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mt. San Antonio Community College District does hereby proclaim June 2023 and every June hereafter as LGBTQ+ Pride Month.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that with this proclamation, the Mt. San Antonio Community College District reaffirms its commitment to the LGBTQ+ community. To mark this commitment, the Mt. SAC Board of Trustees does hereby direct the President/CEO to develop confidential ways to understand the needs of Mt. SAC's LGBTQ+ community so they might be better served, pledge to support the Pride Center in providing a welcoming and affirming space for LGBTQ+ students, and pledge to support greater development of LGBTQ+ programming, educational opportunities, and advocacy for the LGBTQ+ community.