

Gervais School District:

Resolution and Commitment to Educational Access and Inclusion

We believe we have a collective responsibility to ensure Gervais Public Schools provide a caring, supportive environment. School communities should support healthy, positive development of students and help them grow their unique gifts and talents.

We believe the Gervais School District must work in alignment, in coherent ways, and in close partnerships with families and communities. We believe that communities, parents, teachers, and community-based organizations have unique and important responsibilities to improve outcomes for our students and educational systems. Our work will only be successful if we are able to truly partner with our community, engage with respect, authentically listen, and have the courage to share decision making, local control, and resources.

We believe all students should have equitable access to enriched opportunities in school.

We believe that speaking a language other than English is an asset and that our educational system must celebrate and enhance this ability alongside appropriate and culturally responsive support for English as a second language.

We believe our students' diverse learning needs and cultural values are an integral part of the learning community. We must create systems that are inclusive and celebrate our students' learning assets.

We believe students receiving special educational services are an integral part of our educational responsibility and we must welcome the opportunity to be inclusive, make appropriate accommodations, and celebrate their assets.

We believe every student must feel safe, welcome, and fully included in their school community. When students are alienated from their school communities and experience bias and discrimination, they are inherently less safe psychologically, emotionally, and physically. This hinders their ability to learn and grow, and we must build inclusive environments that empower students and employees to thrive.

We believe in hiring and retaining a workforce that embraces the diversity of the community we serve.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Gervais Public School District commits to knowing we must continually work to do better by developing knowledge and encouraging students and staff in Gervais Public Schools and in our community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Gervais District #1 School Board of Directors commits to support the district's efforts to build and develop a strong and vibrant system for all students' educational access and inclusion.