

**ALAMEDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Alameda, California**  
**Resolution**

January 12, 2021

Resolution No. 2020-2021.27

**Resolution In Support of Education on Secure Storage  
of Firearms and Gun Safety in AUSD's Schools\***

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

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

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

*WHEREAS*, another 590 children die by gun suicide each year, most often using guns belonging to a family member; and

*WHEREAS*, in incidents of gun violence on school grounds, 79 percent of active shooters are current students or recent graduates, and 78 percent of shooters under the age of 18 obtained their guns from their own home, a relative's home, or from friends; and

*WHEREAS*, research shows that responsible firearm storage practices are associated with up to an 85 percent reduction in the risk of self-inflicted and unintentional firearm injuries among children and teens; and

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

*WHEREAS*, across the country, lawmakers, community members and local leaders are working together to implement public awareness campaigns, such as *Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America's Be SMART* program, that is endorsed by the National PTA, and encourages secure gun storage practices and highlights the public safety risks of unsecured guns; and

*WHEREAS*, District schools are required to comply with California Education Code Section 32280-9 which mandates the preparation of school safety plans; and

*WHEREAS*, these plans address violence prevention, emergency preparedness, traffic safety, and crisis intervention; and

*WHEREAS*, keeping students, teachers, and staff safe from the threat of gun violence should be the responsibility of all adult stakeholders at each of our school sites and at home; and

*WHEREAS*, an estimated 30 percent of adults in California own a firearm; and

*WHEREAS*, state (and local) law criminalize unsafe storage of firearms where minors may be present; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alameda has passed an ordinance amending the Alameda Municipal Code to add section 4-32.3 to Section 4-32 (Firearms and Weapons) of Article V (Firearms and Explosives) of Chapter IV (Offenses and Public Safety). Section 4-32.3 requires that “no person shall keep a firearm within any residence or upon any residential premises, unless the firearm is stored in a locked container or disabled with a trigger lock within a residence”; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue with preventative measures to increase student and school safety we must act now;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Board directs the Superintendent and staff to update the Student Handbook to include information about parent’s legal duties to responsibly store firearms.
2. The Board directs the Superintendent to create an appropriate letter, in English, Spanish and Chinese, to parents and guardians that explains the importance of secure gun storage, the state and local legal obligations to restrict firearm access to minors and other prohibited persons, the risks and liabilities that can result from lost and stolen firearms, and how and where parents and guardians can voluntarily and safely dispose of unwanted firearms. This letter will include education on what secure storage is and how it can be performed properly. This letter is to be included in annual registration materials at each school site, and will require a signature from each student’s parent(s) or guardian(s) acknowledging awareness of secure gun storage responsibilities.
3. The Board and the Superintendent will continue to work with local law enforcement agencies, health agencies, and non-profit organizations to collaborate and increase efforts to inform District parents and guardians of their duty to responsible store firearms in their residences.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the following vote this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021:

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

NOES: \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mialisa Bonta, President  
Board of Education  
Alameda Unified School District  
Alameda County, State of California

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Pasquale Scuderi, Secretary  
Board of Education  
Alameda Unified School District  
Alameda County, State of California

*\* drafted by Safe Alameda and East Bay Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America*