



**A RESOLUTION TO TERMINATE THE  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR  
SERVICES WITH THE HOWARD COUNTY POLICE  
DEPARTMENT FOR THE SERVICES OF SCHOOL  
RESOURCE OFFICERS**

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**Board of Education Howard County**  
HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

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**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education passed two Black Lives Matter at School Resolutions, affirming the lives of Black students, families, educators, and communities, and committing to providing a school system where Black students feel safe, valued, and where their lives matter.

**WHEREAS**, in the Strategic Call to Action, HCPSS is already committed to ensuring a school environment that focuses on equity and the emotional well-being for each student in an inclusive and nurturing environment.

**WHEREAS**, the Maryland and national school data show that Black and Brown students are disproportionately impacted by the School to Prison Pipeline.

**WHEREAS**, the Maryland school data shows that in the 2018-2019 school year, Black students made up 57% of school-related arrests but only 37% of the student population.

**WHEREAS**, the Maryland school data shows that in the 2018-2019 school year, Black students made up 63% of school-related arrests in Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) but only 24% of the population.

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of HCPSS Black and Brown students have written testimony of their harmful and negative experiences with School Resource Officers (SROs) in HCPSS.

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of HCPSS Black and Brown students have attested that SROs do NOT represent a sense or feeling of safety.

**WHEREAS**, SROs are required to enforce the law on children in what is supposed to be a place of safety and learning, resulting in the criminalization of children and developmentally appropriate behaviors that negatively impact their trajectory through life thereafter.

**WHEREAS**, 94% of the arrests of students in HCPSS were conducted and ordered by SROs.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Howard County Board of Education dissolve its memorandum of understanding between the Howard County Police Department and the Howard County Public School System;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that HCPSS commits to developing an adequate coverage plan as described in the Maryland Safe to Learn Act in collaboration with the community, educators, students, and community organizations;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Howard County Board of Education, the Howard County Public School System, and the Howard County Police Department shall not engage the services of armed and/or sworn law enforcement officers, and shall not retain private security professionals, to maintain any presence and/or to perform the same or similar functions as SROs, aside from the adequate coverage plan developed by HCPSS, in Howard County schools or at school-sponsored events;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Howard County Board of Education commit to and invest in a school safety plan that prioritizes staff and peacekeeping personnel trained in de-escalation and childhood/youth development, restorative justice practices including but not limited to: healing-centered practices and approaches, an abundance of mental health staff and nurses, anti-racism and anti-bias trainings for all staff, practices that focus on trauma-informed school culture, and social and emotional wellbeing of all students;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, HCPSS will revise all HCPSS policies to reflect this resolution and ensure a police-free schools school system;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that all HCPSS staff be trained in the implementation procedures of the HCPSS Equity Policy 1080, HCPSS Policy 1070 Protections and Supports for

Foreign Born Students and Families, Policy 1010 Anti-Discrimination, Policy 10000 Student, Parent, Family, and Community Engagement;

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that Howard County Board of Education commit to being a leader and example of a Police-Free Schools school system.

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**22, JULY, 2020**