

Lake Tahoe Community College

Resolution Number 5 - 2020-21

Condemning the Recent Surge in Hate Crimes Targeting Asian and Pacific Islanders (API) and API-Americans, and Denouncing Xenophobia and Anti-API Sentiment

WHEREAS, there has been a series of recent attacks against Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities, including, on January 31, 2021, three elderly API individuals were assaulted in the City of Oakland's Chinatown District; and, on January 30, 2021, a victim died from injuries resulting from an attack while he was walking in the City of San Francisco, in what is deemed as a hate crime; and

WHEREAS, during the most recent attack on March 16, 2021, eight individuals including six women of Asian descent were tragically killed in a sequence of shootings at Asian-owned businesses in the Atlanta area, and has brought the conversation of racially motivated hate crimes against API's to the forefront; and

WHEREAS, about 31 percent of API individuals report having been subject to discrimination since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a Pew Research Center report; and

WHEREAS, the alarming escalation in xenophobia and bigotry resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in increasing numbers of attacks against API-Americans across the country; and

WHEREAS, federal hate crime data for 2020 has not yet been released, but the number of anti-API hate crimes in 2019 were at their highest level in over a decade; and

WHEREAS, the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council and Chinese for Affirmative Action launched a hate incident-reporting internet website, titled "Stop AAPI Hate," at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in March of 2020; and

WHEREAS, according to Stop AAPI Hate, it has received more than 2,800 reports of hate incidents directed at APIs nationwide in 2020; and

WHEREAS, a recent study from the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino, found that while overall rates of hate crimes in the country decreased by 7% in 2020, anti-API hate crimes surged by 149%; and

WHEREAS, the recent rise of violence against API Americans is part of a larger history of violence against communities of color, and we must work together to create community-centered solutions that stop racism and racial violence in South Lake Tahoe.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lake Tahoe Community College (LTCC) District Board of Trustees (Board) denounces hate crimes, hateful rhetoric, and hateful acts against API communities, and is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty, and staff feel safe and welcome, both during this COVID-19 pandemic and beyond; and be it further

RESOLVED that the LTCC Board supports efforts to provide the LTCC community with education and training that advances racial equity for API communities and encourages bystander intervention to stop anti-API harassment and xenophobia; and be it further

RESOLVED, the LTCC Board supports the ongoing improvement and expansion of LTCC's incident reporting system to ensure that all acts of hate and racism are properly reported and tracked, in order to allow LTCC to respond fully and appropriately in a timely manner; and be it further

RESOLVED that the LTCC Board supports the LTCC Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force in identifying and recommending strategies and outcomes for inclusion in the 2021-22 Superintendent/President and Board Annual Goals that will support LTCC in becoming an anti-racist and multicultural institution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees for Lake Tahoe Community College

District of California on this 23rd day of March 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Karen Borges

Board of Trustees President

Jeff DeFranco, Superintendent/President

Board of Trustees Secretary