## **Board of Education**

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## RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF TRANSGENDER, NONBINARY, AND ALL LGBTQ+ STUDENTS

WHEREAS, the School District of La Crosse is <u>committed</u> to a learning environment that is physically, socially and emotionally safe for all students; and,

WHEREAS, the School District of La Crosse is committed to cultivating a climate in all our schools that is welcoming, safe, and inclusive for all students; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Education and District are committed to honoring, valuing, and affirming our transgender, nonbinary, and all LGBTQ+ students, staff, and families through our policies, practices, and curriculum; and,

WHEREAS, <u>Title VII</u> of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and <u>Title IX</u> of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex; and,

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2020 the U.S. Supreme Court <u>held</u> that discrimination on the basis of an individual's status as gay or transgender constitutes sex discrimination within the meaning of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and,

WHEREAS, President Joe Biden <u>issued</u> an Executive Order on January 20, 2021 affirming that discrimination against transgender individuals is discrimination on the basis of sex and that, "Children should be able to learn without worrying about whether they will be denied access to the restroom, the locker room, or school sports;" and,

WHEREAS, in 1985, the Wisconsin Legislature <u>enacted</u> section 118.13, Wis. Stats., which prohibits discrimination in public schools on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Instruction and the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) <u>affirm</u> that denying a student the opportunity to participate on a sports team consistent with their gender identity is likely prohibited sex discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, the WIAA <u>supports</u> transgender students participation in athletics based on their gender identity/expression, not the sex they were assigned at birth;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the School District of La Crosse Board of Education affirms, supports, and values the gender identities and gender expressions of all our students and will continue to further efforts in our schools to create a welcoming, safe,

and inclusive learning environment for our transgender, nonbinary, and all LGBTQ+ students; and,

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School District of La Crosse Board of Education supports human rights and equitable educational opportunities and practices for all LGBTQ+ students; and,

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School District of La Crosse Board of Education rejects any legislation or action that dehumanizes, marginalizes, or violates the rights of transgender, nonbinary, and all LGBTQ+ students.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution was adopted by the Board of Education of the School District of La Crosse on a unanimous vote on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.

Laurie Cooper Stoll, President	Dawn Comeau, Clerk