

## **Tucson Unified School District Board of Education Resolution to Declare TUSD schools a Zero Tolerance Human Trafficking Zone**

**WHEREAS**, Human Trafficking, also known as trafficking in persons (TIP), is a modern-day form of slavery. There are approximately twenty-seven million victims of trafficking world-wide, with 80% female victims and 50% children. Human Trafficking is a growing problem in the United States and it is a crime which violates human rights and personal freedoms on the victims who are preyed upon; and

**WHEREAS**, TUSD recognizes that Human Trafficking is a crime that targets endangered, marginalized, at risk children and recruits or obtains them through force or coercion for purposes of sexual exploitation, involuntary servitude and other types of enslavement; it is estimated at least 200,000 American children and youth are at risk of being victims of human trafficking; and

**WHEREAS**, Human Trafficking is present-day slavery and a clear violation of the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the United States Constitution with traffickers taking away basic human rights upon which our Country was founded; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Arizona and the Federal Government have laws which prosecute Human Traffickers, this crime is often underreported due to its covert nature, we acknowledge that enforcement, prevention and assistance to survivors is best when the public has broad awareness of the Human Trafficking issue; and

**WHEREAS**, TUSD is committed to protecting individual freedoms and human rights by declaring a zero tolerance zone for Human Trafficking and collaboratively working with Local, State and Federal law enforcement agencies and non-profit organizations in support of eradicating Human Trafficking and helping victims to recover from this heinous crime;

**WHEREAS**, the Law Enforcement and Pima County Attorney have taken a leadership role in educating law enforcement officers and the general community about the evils and prevalence of Human Trafficking, including both Sex Trafficking and Labor Trafficking, and have been leaders in the Southern Arizona Human Trafficking Working Group; and

**WHEREAS**, TUSD opposes all forms of Human Trafficking and encourages support for those who have survived so that Human Trafficking victims can have their freedoms and dignity restored, and to put an end to Human Trafficking activity in Pima County, the State of Arizona and across the World.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Tucson Unified School District Board of Education designates all TUSD as a Zero Tolerance Human Trafficking zone and applauds the efforts of law enforcement and other organizations and individuals and governing bodies who raise awareness of and work to actively put an end to Human Trafficking.

**ADOPTED** this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015, by the Tucson Unified School District Governing Board.

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Adelita S. Grijalva, President

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Kristel Ann Foster, Clerk

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Michael Hicks, Member

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Mark Stegeman, Member

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Cam Juárez, Member