

**UTICA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
RESOLUTION ON SAFE AND SECURE STORAGE OF FIREARMS**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education (the “Board”) of Utica Community Schools (the “District”), County of Macomb, State of Michigan, was held on the 15th day of May 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Meyer and supported by Member Becker.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, in partnership with stakeholders, is committed to the safety and well-being of all students, families, and staff;

WHEREAS, in Michigan, gun violence is the leading cause of death in children and teens; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 4.6 million children in the United States live in households with at least one loaded, unlocked firearm; and

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

WHEREAS, research shows that secure firearm storage practices are associated with up to an 85 percent reduction in the risk of unintentional firearm injuries among children and teens, and

WHEREAS, the United States Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center recommends the 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 the Be SMART program, which is endorsed by the National PTA, and which encourages secure gun storage practices and highlights the public safety risks of unsecured guns; and

WHEREAS, school districts across the country have begun to proactively send materials home to parents and guardians informing them of the applicable firearm storage laws and firearm secure storage best practices; and

WHEREAS, keeping students, families, and staff safe from the threat of gun violence should be the responsibility of all adult stakeholders across the district; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue with preventive measures to increase the safety of students, families, and staff we must act;

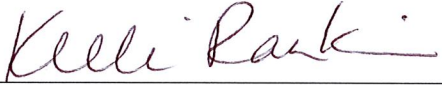
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Utica Community Schools will utilize available resources to communicate information about the importance of the safe and secure storage of firearms to parents and guardians across the district, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Utica Community Schools will continue to work with local law enforcement agencies, health agencies, and non-profits to collaborate and increase efforts to inform District parents and guardians about safe and secure storage of firearms in their homes.

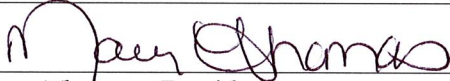


AYES: Meyer, Becker, Templeton, Fitzpatrick, Rankin, Thomas

NAYS: None

Resolution declared adopted.


Kelli Rankin
Board of Education, Secretary
Utica Community Schools

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.


Dr. Mary Thomas, President Board of Education

Kelli Rankin, Secretary Board of Education

Robert S. Monroe Superintendent of Schools

May 15, 2023