

GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.16-2020-2021

STATEMENT CONDEMNING ATTACK ON DEMOCRACY

Whereas, community colleges are recognized as democracy's colleges in the 1947 Truman Commission report that stated, "Equal opportunity for all persons, to the maximum of their individual abilities and without regard to economic status, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, or ancestry is a major goal of American democracy. Only an informed, thoughtful, tolerant people can develop and maintain a free society" and noted the threat to democracy world-wide required the U.S. to build a strong and lasting democracy, producing effective citizens, meant increasing the number of people who were educated beyond high school.

Whereas, over 1,000 public community colleges across the country now serve a diverse student population regardless of national origin, religion, age, gender, gender identity, gender expression, race or ethnicity, color, medical condition, genetic information, ancestry, sexual orientation, marital status, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, or military and veteran status; and

Whereas, community colleges are focused on student success through the powerful teaching framework of diversity, equity, inclusion and access; and,

Whereas, key learning outcomes of community colleges focus on democracy, the importance of the U.S. Constitution, and all Glendale Community College employees are to take an oath of loyalty to the U.S. Constitution; and,

Whereas, the peaceful transition of power is a foundation of our democratic system of government; and

Whereas, a group of domestic terrorists incited by the President of the United States and Congressional members not fulfilling their Constitutional duties to certify the results of the Electoral College, engaged in a violent invasion of the Capitol resulting in death and destruction; and

Whereas, it is essential Glendale Community College board, faculty, and staff join in unity to foster an equitable and inclusive environment free of racism, hate, and violence.

Now, therefore be it RESOLVED, the Glendale Community College District Board of Trustees:

Condemns the elected leaders whose assertions about voter fraud in the Presidential election, made with no basis in evidence, have led to mistrust of our democratic processes; and,

Condemns the domestic terrorists whose violent and lawless invasion of the Capitol was a direct attack on the orderly and peaceful transition of power under the U. S. Constitution; and,

Commends Glendale Community College faculty and staff for their ongoing, focused work to educate our students about American institutions and providing opportunities to learn to think critically, obtaining and weighing evidence so as to make informed decisions; and,

Supports the work of GCC faculty to provide our students the support, encouragement, and guidance to develop and maintain their emotional well-being and intellectual honesty and integrity; and,

Commits to full and continuous support of faculty, staff, and students' diversity of thought and academic freedom, and protection of freedom of speech as an essential part of respectful academic discourse driven toward the college's mission, vision and values.

Dated this 19th day of January, 2021.