

DISCUSSION/ACTION

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Rockville, Maryland

March 22, 2018

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Patricia B. O'Neill, Member of the Board of Education

Subject: Resolution Opposing Arming Classroom Personnel

WHEREAS, In response to the tragedy on February 14, 2018, at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, in Parkland, Florida, President Donald J. Trump has proposed a program that would encourage and aid states in training teachers and other school staff to carry firearms in schools; and

WHEREAS, "Maryland law expressly forbids weapons of any kind on public school property, except for law enforcement personnel and certain other narrow exceptions..."; and

WHEREAS, the Montgomery Board of Education support all viable efforts to create safe schools that do not endanger students in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump's proposal would put guns in the hands of adults in the classrooms and potentially expose students and staff to danger and violence; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education is deeply committed to viable programs and initiatives that keep guns and deadly weapons out of our nations' classrooms, while ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children and adults as they focus on learning; and be it further

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education express its strong opposition to President Donald J. Trump's proposal to train and arm local school staff, which diverts them from their core purpose of instruction in the classroom; and be it further

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education urge Maryland State Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. to continue to oppose any attempts to arm teachers in the classrooms; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to President Donald J. Trump, Maryland State Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., the Montgomery County Legislative Delegation, and the Maryland Congressional Delegation.

PBO:lsh