



# rochester teachers association

Representing teachers • school instructors • substitute teachers • home/hospital teachers • retired teachers

## Resolution Supporting Community Action for Safe Schools

WHEREAS, all students deserve safe, welcoming, supportive school environments where they can learn and thrive without fear; and

WHEREAS, no parent should send his or her child to school and fear that the child may never come home; and

WHEREAS, no academic faculty, professional faculty, staff or student in an institution of education should fear for their lives or be victimized by gun violence while attending class.

WHEREAS, since the shootings at Columbine High School in Columbine, Colo., first shocked our nation, students, parents and educators have fought tirelessly to put an end to gun violence in our schools and communities and are now at the forefront of organizing efforts in the wake of the mass murder in Parkland; and

WHEREAS, America's students – led by the courageous young people of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School – are now leading the charge to prevent further tragedy:

**RESOLVED, that the Rochester Teachers' Association will commit ourselves to common sense measures to stop gun violence in schools and communities, including further school safety efforts; and**

**RESOLVED, that the RTA will be a conduit for listening to members and students, and for amplifying their voices and experience in the public sphere to more effectively fight this scourge, including convening the RTA Social Justice committee within the next month to recommend ways that we can help support our students, their families and the community through concerted actions and disruption of business as usual to compel the nation to take action; and**

**RESOLVED, that the RTA will work to support the survivors of gun violence directly and indirectly and of all those who have fought schools that are free from gun violence, by ensuring that April 20 – the anniversary of the Columbine massacre – becomes a day of action across the country to end gun violence in schools, and by supporting the student-led marches on March 14 and March 24;**

**RESOLVED, that the RTA will support students and teachers as consistent with the law and our collective bargaining agreement.**

**Adopted without objection by the RTA  
Representative Assembly on Tuesday,  
February 27, 2018.**

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Local 616 - Affiliated with the New York State United Teachers, the American Federation of Teachers, and the National Education Association

