

**Resolution related to the Bedford Public Schools' Commitment to Combating Antisemitism
and All forms of Hate and Bias for
Bedford School Committee Consideration at its June 11, 2025 Meeting**

Whereas the Bedford School Committee reaffirms its commitment to creating a safe, welcoming, and inclusive community, as outlined in its

- [Mission statement and core values](#): *We provide a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment in which the unique academic, intellectual, social, ethical, emotional, and physical growth of each learner can be realized; and*
- [Diversity, equity and inclusion mission statement](#): *...we set out to engage in [the] exploration of identity, culture, and systems, while we teach and learn about impactful advantages and disadvantages, similarities and differences, as well as the humanity that we all share; and*

Whereas the School Committee believes that where there is antisemitism, there is hatred of all kinds; and that one incident of antisemitic or other biased or hateful behavior is one incident too many; and

Whereas the district's 2024-2027 strategic plan outlines *strategic objective #2: Promote wellbeing and resilience for learners from every background and at different stages of growth/development; and*

Whereas the district will continue to uphold our curricular autonomy to ensure that we teach appropriately about history and current events; and

Whereas the [Bedford Education Association has issued a statement to the Massachusetts Teachers Association](#) expressing serious reservations regarding the neutrality and potential for bias within the education materials provided on the MTA website regarding the Middle East conflict, and calling for the immediate removal of the entire "Resources on the Conflict in the Middle East" page from the MTA website; and

Now therefore be it resolved that: The Bedford Public Schools supports the Bedford Education Association's disavowal of the MTA Resources on the Conflict in the Middle East; and

Be it further resolved that: The School Committee will combat antisemitism and other forms of hate and bias in our schools and community by directing the Superintendent to convene a Taskforce (formal name to be determined by said Taskforce) with the following parameters and charge:

1. Members will be appointed by the Superintendent after consultation with the school committee chair or designee and will include but not be limited to individuals representing the following Bedford stakeholders: school committee, each school, administrators, educators, community and faith organizations, town leadership (including police). Stakeholders who represent communities that experience hate and bias are strongly encouraged to reach out to the Superintendent.
2. The Taskforce will be charged with developing recommendations designed to improve the culture and climate in our schools so that aggressors are educated and held accountable, and targets and their families are heard and supported.

3. These recommendations will address changes and/or enhancements to Bedford Public Schools policy and practices, including but not limited to the following areas:
 - a. Protocols related to incident reporting, data tracking, investigation, response, and post-investigation communication to families/stakeholders, are revising student handbooks and other documents accordingly.
 - b. Formal educational programming and/or curriculum shifts to proactively teach students, families, and the community about antisemitism, racism, and other forms of hate and bias that result from lack of understanding of other cultures and lived experiences and that degrade the safety of the learning environment.
 - c. Professional development for staff.
 - d. Formalizing structures within the school district and with other community partners (e.g. the Bedford Police) to regularly review incident data and plan ongoing, coordinated responses.
 - e. Incorporating these action steps, as appropriate, into district and school improvement plans.
4. The Taskforce will begin its work with a primary focus on combating antisemitism and on the middle school, but will continue its work to ensure that all forms of hate and bias in all of our schools and across the district and community are comprehensively addressed to the maximal extent possible.
5. The Taskforce will hold an initial convening no later than July 31, 2025 and report on progress at least quarterly to the School Committee through the Superintendent, with a first progress report no later than October 31, 2025.
6. The School Committee intends for this Taskforce to be exempt from the Open Meeting Law in order to facilitate speedy progress.

School Committee Approved: June 11, 2025