

Broward School Board voices support for gun control measures

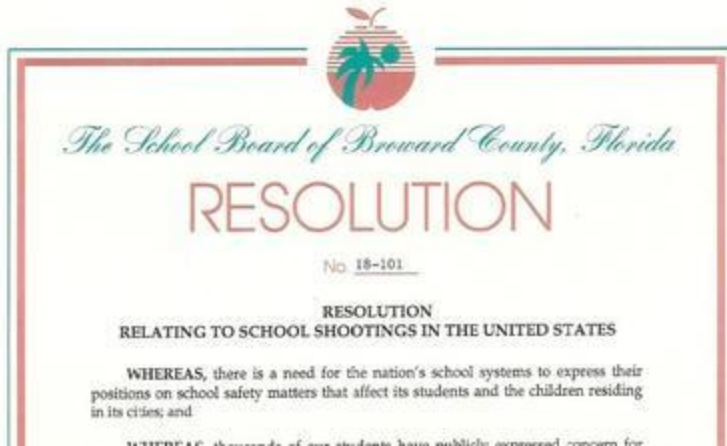
Scott Travis
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The Broward County School Board has formally entered the gun debate, passing a resolution Tuesday that calls for tougher federal background checks and a ban on semiautomatic weapons.

The resolution also asks for more federal dollars for school police officers, psychologists and counselors, as well as larger gun-free zones around the perimeters of schools. It opposes [arming teachers](#).

“Teachers are not trained law enforcement officers, and should not be asked or incentivized to keep weapons accessible in their classrooms,” the resolution states, claiming there is no credible research that supports the idea.

It’s one of two resolutions the district passed related to the Feb. 14 [mass shooting](#) that killed 17 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High in Parkland. The second resolution voices appreciation to first responders who arrived at the school during the shooting. One police officer is singled out specifically for appreciation, Michael Leonard of Coconut Creek Police, who [caught and arrested the gunman](#).



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In the school safety resolution, the district says it stands with students and staff at Stoneman Douglas “in demanding effective and comprehensive action from the federal government [to protect schoolchildren.](#)”

No mention was made of the [state legislature](#), which has been debating a number of school security measures in recent days. The resolution was drafted by the Council of Great City Schools, which represents 70 large urban school districts.

The Council sent a draft resolution March 1 to its school districts, said Henry Duvall, a spokesman for the group. He said the San Antonio School district passed the resolution Monday and he expects Sacramento, Cleveland and other districts to adopt it soon.

In addition to Stoneman Douglas, the resolution refers to [Sandy Hook Elementary](#) in Connecticut and Columbine High in Colorado, as well as school shootings in Red Lake Minn., Lancaster, Pa., and Cleveland and Chardon, Ohio.

The resolution also says “too many of our young people are shot and killed on the streets of our major cities almost every day” and that “Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with a gun than people in other developed countries.”