

Resolution Affirming the Importance of the 2020 Census for the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Community

WHEREAS, the decennial Census occurs every ten years to enumerate every person residing in the United States, and is fundamental to ensuring that all residents of our great cities have access to fair representation, essential services, and economic development; and

WHEREAS, an accurate count of persons living in the Five Star community in the cities of Broomfield, Federal Heights, Northglenn, Thornton and Westminster in the counties of Adams and Broomfield, in the 2020 Census is vital to determine the representation of individuals, families, and communities in our local, state, and federal governments; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Census count of children living in Adams 12 Five Star Schools will be the basis of federal education funding allocated to our schools over the next ten years, specifically the federal programs serving our students living in poverty and students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, population data derived in the 2020 Census will be used by both government and businesses to determine which neighborhoods and communities in our cities and counties should receive services and investments like libraries, health clinics, and grocery and retail stores; and

WHEREAS, the decennial Census has historically undercounted populations in large, urban areas such as ours; and

WHEREAS, the populations that are prevalent in urban areas like our community are at high risk of being undercounted, including young children, people of color, low-income households, language minority families, foreign-born residents, and households with limited Internet access, according to the U.S. Census Bureau; and

WHEREAS, children are more likely to be missed in the Census count if they reside in the complex households that are also common in urban areas, such as multi-generation households, extended families, and multi-family households; and

WHEREAS, during the 2020 Census, there is a heightened risk of an undercount due to the digital divide, language access issues, and local community mistrust in the federal government; and

WHEREAS, local and state governments, as well as community-based organizations, can play a critical role in counteracting the undercount risks, reaching hard-to-count populations, and ensuring their communities get counted in 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is paramount for the school board, superintendent, principals, teachers, parent organizations, and all local leaders in Adams 12 Five Star Schools to communicate the importance of Census 2020 to families and community members to ensure everyone is counted;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Adams 12 Five Star Schools will take action to ensure a complete count of all students and their families residing within the school district on the 2020 Census; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Adams 12 Five Star Schools is committed to working in partnership with other local civic, business, and community leaders, the State of Colorado, and others to engage, educate, and count every resident in the cities of Broomfield, Federal Heights, Northglenn, Thornton and Westminster and the counties of Adams and Broomfield, in the 2020 Census.

Adopted by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of February 19, 2020.