CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 1 **RESOLUTION NO. 2015-108** 2 INTRODUCED BY: 3 4 5 Mayor Javier M. Gonzales Councilor Carmichael A. Dominguez 6 Councilor Peter N. Ives Councilor Ronald S. Trujillo 7 Councilor Signe I. Lindell Councilor Bill Dimas 8 Councilor Patti J. Bushee 9 Councilor Joseph M. Maestas Councilor Chris Rivera A RESOLUTION 10 RELATING TO SCHOOL BULLYING; REQUESTING THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND 11 PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A SANTA FE THE 12 COMPREHENSIVE REPORTING SYSTEM TO TRACK INCIDENTS OF BULLYING, 13 ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSES TO INCIDENTS, AND A SUBSTANTIVE PROGRAM TO 14 EDUCATE YOUTH, PARENTS, AND CITY AND SCHOOL STAFF ON THE PREVENTION 15 16 OF BULLYING. 17 WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Santa Fe adopted Resolution 2013-84 that 18 affirmed the City's commitment to equality and freedom, and condemned bullying, harassment and 19 intimidation in schools; and 20 WHEREAS, the Santa Fe Public Schools Board of Education adopted Policy 331 that 21 affirmed the Board's commitment to providing an educational environment free from bullying, 22 harassment, hazing and intimidation; and 23 WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Santa Fe adopted Resolution 2014-23 that

directed staff to develop a plan to establish a "safe place" program to benefit young people who are in

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crisis in the Santa Fe community; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe Public Schools has established safe zones in all of its secondary schools for students to go if they are in a crisis situation, and has trained staff how to support students who have been targeted; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe Public Schools both have policies and procedures in place for addressing incidents of bullying at their sites and facilities; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe Public Schools has developed a comprehensive Bullying Prevention Program which includes the following components:

- (1) Bullying prevention education for all students K-12;
- (2) Student leadership training to implement peer education;
- (3) Staff training on bullying prevention and response;
- (4) The Safe Zones Program at secondary schools;
- (5) Technical assistance for staff on prevention and response;
- (6) The Stand Up for Kindness Initiative, and Kindness Crews; and

WHEREAS, in spite of policies, procedures, programs, education, and training implemented by the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe Public Schools, bullying continues to be a problem in our schools and our city; and

WHEREAS, 2015 New Mexico Senate Bill 393 (Safe Schools for All Students Act), sponsored by Senator William Soules (District 37 – Doña Ana) would have established a comprehensive program to monitor, track and report incidents of bullying, and provide regular training to staff that are in regular contact with students on how to handle incidents of bullying; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe Public Schools would provide great assistance to youth and their families by establishing a similar, locally based program to address the issue of bullying in the schools and within the community; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe Public Schools, through its Office of Student Support Services, is

developing a system to consistently document incidents of bullying to better understand and address the scope of bullying incidents that occur in individual schools; and

WHEREAS, to ensure City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe Public Schools staffs are trained, not only in policy and procedures, but also in the implementation of a results-based system to prevent, address and resolve the issues of bullying; and

WHEREAS, youth that are victims of bullying often experience difficulty succeeding in school, limiting their options later in life, and in some cases causing incidents with law enforcement officers;

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe Public Schools can and should provide more assistance to victims of bullying; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe Public Schools should also initiate an intervention program for those youth doing the bullying, aimed at identifying and rectifying the environmental and social causes for such behavior; and

WHEREAS, parents and guardians also need education and training on the prevention of bullying, and policies and procedures in place to address bullying within our schools and city facilities; and

WHEREAS, efforts to combat bullying will not be an immediate and total success, but determination to improve the educational and social environment for all youth should be seen as the overall object of such an initiative; and

WHEREAS, all written material and education sessions related to bullying should be available in both English and Spanish, thereby ensuring the reach of the initiative to all residents of the City of Santa Fe.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE that relevant staff is directed to work with Santa Fe Public Schools to develop and implement a comprehensive reporting system to track incidents of bullying, administrative

responses to incidents, and a substantive program to educate youth, parents, and city and school staff on the prevention of bullying. PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 9th day of December, 2015 JAVIER M. GONZALES, MAYOR ATTEST: APPROVED AS TO FORM: KELLEY A BRENNAN, CITY ATTORNEY

M/Legislation/Resolutions 2015/2015-108 Bullying Initiative