

## SPECIAL RESOLUTION

### *School Board Reaffirmation* ACCEPTING THE NINE TOOLS OF CIVILITY

WHEREAS, in March 2012, the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 reaffirmed their acceptance of the *Nine Tools of Civility*; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Independent School District No, 709 continue to place a high value on respect and civility in their lives and they understand that these characteristics are essential to any healthy community; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 supports opportunities for civil discourse and discussion in the community and within the School District; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 addresses sometimes controversial issues about which people often feel passionately – which at times leads to uncivil behavior; and

WHEREAS, an atmosphere of incivility and disrespect can have a damaging effect on the proceedings, on the quality of debate, and on the practice of democracy itself.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 continues to recognize the *Nine Tools of Civility* that will provide increased opportunities for civil discourse in order to find positive resolutions to the issues that face our community. These Tools include:

1. Pay attention
2. Listen
3. Be inclusive
4. Don't gossip
5. Show respect
6. Be agreeable
7. Apologize
8. Give constructive criticism
9. Take responsibility

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 shall continue to promote the use and adherence of the *Nine Tools of Civility* in conducting the business of the School Board.

Resolution SP-6-14-3189

June 17, 2014