

From: [Rachael Dyer](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Resolution 2020-014
Date: Tuesday, August 17, 2021 11:22:34 AM

Dear Board of Commissioners for Leelanau County,

I am a preschool educator and have been a Leelanau County homeowner and resident for more than 20 years. I am writing this letter to encourage follow-up with the "anti-bias" resolution that was passed over a year ago in direct response to the abhorrent, racist comments made by members of the Leelanau County Road Commission. As we all know, and not surprisingly, these comments gained national attention and became an embarrassing and transparent example of how racism is indeed alive and well in Leelanau. It pains me to write that sentence. We all have work to do. We must each own up to our biases - setting this resolution and adopting a county employee policy is a good beginning, but a far cry from significant or evident change. I urge this Commission to reflect on the training that was undertaken, and to revisit and refresh the adopted policy and resolution that was established. For the benefit of all residents, and especially the children so carefully and meticulously watching, emulating, and learning from us, please revisit and continue this important work. Allowing damaging thoughts and feelings - illustrating bias and bigotry - to once again resurface, will set us all back. Let us prove that the valuable time spent crafting and adopting a resolution, policy, and training engagement, was not in vain, not for "show", and will indeed become ingrained and established within our local governing system. Acceptance, welcoming social policy engagement, and embracing equity will NOT fail us. Yet it will unequivocally foster healthy collaboration and wellbeing - while reaching the younger generations so keenly seeking examples for behavior and expression. Help support our early childhood educators in this way.

Thank you and I look forward to watching my commissioners support this mission.

Sincerely,
Rachael Dyer
Lake Leelanau

Please feel free to present this letter publically at the Board meeting set for 8/17.