

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 28, 2025**

RESOLUTION 4847

FOR ACTION

**SUBJECT: PARTNERSHIP WITH CONNECT FOR FREEDOM INC. FOR
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS AND PREVENTION
TRAINING**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education requires public schools to equip school staff and students with the necessary knowledge and skills to identify, prevent, and respond effectively to human trafficking situations within the school community;

WHEREAS, Connect for Freedom Inc. ("CFF") is a non-profit founded in 2023 with a mission to connect education stakeholders to join the fight for freedom from online exploitation and human trafficking in their schools and communities;

WHEREAS, CFF has offered to partner with the South Orange and Maplewood School District to provide relevant professional development training materials, lesson plans for staff, parent presentations and resources, a response protocol, and other resources at no cost to the District;

WHEREAS, CFF's training resources are curated from the Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign, developed in collaboration with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, and aligned with the following New Jersey Student Learning Standards and State laws:

- Personal Safety – 2.3.8.PS.1.4.5.6.7; 2.3.12.PS.2.5.7.8.9
- Community Health Services and Support – 2.1.2.CHSS.5; 2.7.8.CJSS.2; 2.1.8.CHSS.4
- Social and Sexual Health – 2.1.2.SSH.3; 2.1.5.SSH.5; 2.2.2.SSH.8
- Consent (N.J.S.A. 18A:35)
- Sexting (N.J.S.A. 18A:35–4.33)
- Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Education (N.J.S.A. 18A:35–4.5a)

WHEREAS, the South Orange and Maplewood School District wishes to partner with CFF under a written agreement to implement the CFF program into the District's elementary, middle, and high schools;

WHEREAS, this partnership is in the best interest of the District and its students;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Orange and Maplewood Board of Education approves the partnership with Connect for Freedom Inc. for the 2025–2026 school year, at no cost to the District, and authorizes the Superintendent to take any action necessary to effectuate the agreement. The partnership will automatically renew for the following school year unless the District decides to cancel the program.