

**A Resolution of the Owen Board of Education  
In support of Kentucky public education**

**WHEREAS**, the Board holds sacred the value of public education and possesses a unique perspective on its power to shape and change the future for children and families; and

**WHEREAS**, we join our counterparts across the state with one voice to call for recognition that Kentucky public schools are vitally important and worthy of support, celebration and appreciation; and

**WHEREAS**, our public school students continue to demonstrate remarkable progress including graduation rates among the top ten in the nation, improved college- and career-readiness, and increases in academic performance resulting from the application of research-supported instructional practices delivered by high quality teachers, despite ongoing efforts to cast public schools as inferior; and

**WHEREAS**, investing in public education is the most impactful way to ensure economic growth as it is critical in the globalized economy that students are prepared to adapt to change in the workplace; and

**WHEREAS**, a robust investment in education is necessary to equip schools with the resources – personnel, facilities, technology – to ensure all Kentucky children acquire the skills and knowledge needed for college, career, and life success in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century; and

**WHEREAS**, a robust investment in education will continue to close the equity gap, which will decrease the divide between the educated and uneducated, wealthy and poor, and the strong and the weak; and

**WHEREAS**, the existence of a strong system of free public education for all Kentucky children is essential to our democratic system of government; and

**WHEREAS**, preparing children to participate in our democracy embraces the notion that, in order to survive as a nation, our citizens must be committed to the ideals and work of democracy, and be able to find common ground with each other and respect where common ground is absent; and

**WHEREAS**, Kentucky public schools provide students with broad-based educational opportunities including exposure to the history, culture, languages, and context of all regions of the world; learning how to collaboratively solve problems and interact with peoples of diverse cultures; and developing empathy for human differences, commonalities, and backgrounds;

**NOW, THEREFORE: Be it resolved by the Owen Board of Education:**

**Section 1.** The Board calls on our state legislators to prioritize full financial support for the Commonwealth's public schools and to honor promised benefits critical to those who commit their professional and personal lives to our schools and to our students.

**Section 2.** The Board strongly advocates for state policy committed to fully supporting and educating the whole child, providing adequate financial investment in academic and non-academic support, including

counseling, extra/co-curricular activities, student safety and social/emotional supports and to empower local education leaders to implement, manage, and lead school districts accountable to local citizens.

**Section 3.** The Board supports an inclusive, safe, and innovative public education system that ensures all students can succeed, regardless of their ZIP code, the color of their skin, their native language, their family status, or their social standing, while promoting equity and excellence.

**Section 4.** The Board urges our state legislators and our governor to meet their Constitutional and moral responsibility to properly fund our public schools and support the children who depend on public education to prepare them to be happy, healthy, successful, and productive citizens of our Commonwealth and our Nation.

**Section 5.** The Board supports the *#LoveKYPublicEducation* campaign of the Kentucky Association of School Administrator's Superintendents of the Year in order to proclaim the good news of public education and to encourage Kentuckians in every community to openly and strongly support our students, teachers, families, leaders, and employees every day in every school.

Adopted this 19 day of March, 2018.