

**A Resolution in Support
of the
Colorado Superintendent's Position on K12 Funding
by
The Elizabeth School District Board of Education**

WHEREAS, for the past 5 years, school funding in Colorado has fallen far behind the rate of inflation resulting in a current per pupil funding below the 2008/09 level; an amount far below that mandated by the people by the passage of Amendment 23 to the Colorado Constitution, and;

WHEREAS, the application of the Negative Factor (the amount below the constitutionally mandated funding levels) has effected school districts across our state by allocating to other state priorities over \$1 Billion intended for Colorado students, and;

WHEREAS, though Colorado remains near the bottom nationally for school funding, this board recognizes and appreciates the small reductions made and the statutory halt to increases in the Negative Factor instituted during the 2014 legislative session, and;

WHEREAS, this board has seen the local impact of funding reductions of nearly \$13 Million on our ability to provide the level of educational services and capital maintenance expected by our community and understands that all districts in the state have been comparably impacted, and;

WHEREAS, in November 2014, 174 of the 178 superintendents of the state took a firm and public position in support of the Governor's proposal to add \$200 million in one-time dollars to the state's schools and further called for an additional \$50 million to districts for children living in poverty and \$20 million for small rural schools that have been disproportionately affected by the Negative Factor, and;

WHEREAS, while this board recognizes that these small steps do not fix the chronic funding issues imposed by the myriad statutory and constitutional conflicts that currently exist within our state, they do help ensure currently enrolled students are not further underserved while long term solutions are sought, then,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we join with our Superintendent and his peers in calling for this \$270 million in additional state funding, with no spending mandates attached, in order to preserve our ability and flexibility to serve our current students' educational needs, and;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that that we will individually and collectively, and in cooperation with members of our Colorado General Assembly, other like-minded boards of education, professional associations, and citizens' organizations, support passage of state legislation that provides this \$270 million funding increase and furthers the development of long-term school funding solutions.

Adopted: February, 9 2015

Verified: _____
Board Secretary