

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ADAMS 14 SCHOOL DISTRICT AND OPPOSING THE REORGANIZATION PROCESS

- **WHEREAS,** Commerce City, Colorado is an important industrial-based city in Adams County, home to working class families of different ethnic, cultural and linguistic backgrounds with the predominant minority population being Hispanic; and,
- **WHEREAS**, the nearly 7,000 students of the Adams 14 School District ("Adams 14") mirror the diversity of the Commerce City community; and,
- **WHEREAS**, the students of Adams 14 and the schools they attend are important assets and integral parts of the strength of the community; and,
- **WHEREAS**, the academic success of the students of Adams 14 and the quality of their schools is very important to the community; and,
- **WHEREAS**, all students of Adams 14 deserve rigorous and effective academic programming to enable them to achieve postsecondary and workforce readiness and post-graduation success; and,
- **WHEREAS**, the Adams 14 Board members have been duly elected by Commerce City voters; and,
- **WHEREAS**, the components needed to turn Adams 14 around are present within the community of Adams 14, and the students can succeed if provided with an immediate infusion of resources and support along with the prioritized and maximized assistance of the State Board, the Colorado Department of Education and others; and,
- **WHEREAS**, by its May 24, 2022 Order, the Colorado State Board of Education removed accreditation from Adams 14 District, and directed Adams 14 and its three surrounding school districts to proceed with an unproven, time-consuming and resource-intensive reorganization process, which threatens the very existence of the Adams 14; and,
- **WHEREAS**, reorganizing Adams 14 out of existence would be detrimental to the fabric of its community; and,
- **WHEREAS**, at a time when the focus of limited time and limited resources should be on improving the outcomes for current and future students, the State Board's actions harm Adams 14, the Adams 14 Board, students, parents, the Commerce City community, and other stakeholders; and,
- **WHEREAS**, the School District Organization Act of 1992 is not suitable where none of the school districts are voluntary participants in the reorganization process and the process has no precedent or likelihood of success; and,
- **WHEREAS**, the reorganization process is not likely to lead to the improvement of outcomes for the students of Adams 14 and would only serve to erode stability in the District;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Board of Education supports the Adams 14 Board of Education and its constitutional right to local control of instruction in its schools; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Board of Education opposes the reorganization process because it would be distracting from the priority of improving academic outcomes for all students and would further strain the limited resources of Adams 14, Mapleton School District, Brighton School District 27J, and Adams 12 Five Star Schools; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the State Board of Education is urged to rescind its Order of May 24, 2022 and to focus its efforts on developing near-term collaborative strategies to immediately assist Adams 14 School District in improving outcomes for all of its students.

Adopted by the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Board of Education at its regular meeting of June 1, 2022.