

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION CC

WHEREAS, the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Board of Education believes that every student should have the opportunity to reach his or her full potential and to participate meaningfully in the civic and economic life of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado way of life provides every student the chance to succeed regardless of their zip code or their learning needs; and

WHEREAS, quality public education develops a competitive workforce that will drive a vibrant Colorado economy for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, Colorado is experiencing a teacher shortage crisis and many teachers in rural districts do not make enough salary to meet the cost of living; and

WHEREAS, Colorado's investment in education is lagging behind other states and consistently ranks near the bottom in funding; and

WHEREAS, education funding has not recovered from the recession; in the 2019-20 school year alone, Colorado schools are underfunded by \$572 million, and the loss to the Five Star School District for 2019-20 is \$27 million.

WHEREAS, reduced funding is directly impacting the District's ability to provide meaningful educational opportunities for all students; and

WHEREAS, the reduced funding also limits the Board's ability to respond to parents and community input on the District's programs and services, despite the Board's great desire to engage with and respond to its community; and

WHEREAS, Proposition CC, a referred ballot measure through HB19-1257, states: Without raising taxes and to better fund public schools, higher education, and roads, bridges, and transit, within a balanced budget, may the state keep and spend all the revenue it annually collects after June 30, 2019, but is not currently allowed to keep and spend under Colorado law, with an annual independent audit to show how the retained revenues are spent?

WHEREAS, HB19-1258 allocates the retained revenue as follows: the General Assembly appropriated one-third of the retained amount for higher education; one-third of the retained amount for public schools, to be distributed on a per pupil basis and used only for nonrecurring expenses for the purpose of improving classrooms; and the state treasurer transfer one-third of the retained amount to the Highway Users Tax Fund (HUTF).

WHEREAS, Proposition CC does not raise the tax rate; and

WHEREAS, the majority of local governments and school districts have asked and received permission from voters to invest the revenue already collected above current limits; and

WHEREAS, Proposition CC gives local school boards greater ability to respond to parent and community input when considering how best to allocate the nonrecurring revenue for the purpose of improving classrooms; and

WHEREAS, if Proposition CC passes, the Board commits to focusing on the following priorities - bus acquisition, facility needs and IT infrastructure, while acknowledging that priorities will evolve as community engagement is an ongoing process and revenue from Proposition CC is not recurring; and

WHEREAS, the Board declares that Proposition CC is a matter of official concern.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Board of Education officially declares its support for Proposition CC for the purpose of increasing funding of public education in the State of Colorado; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board authorizes the expenditure of District funds to distribute a factual summary regarding Proposition CC, in accordance with the Fair Campaign Practices Act, C.R.S. § 1-45-117.

Adopted and approved by the Board of Education at a special meeting on September 25, 2019.