



School Board Briefing/Proposed Action Report

Informational (no action required by Board) **Action Report** (Board will be required to take action)

DATE: March 1, 2016
FROM: Jill Geary, Board Director

I. TITLE

Amendment to Resolution 2015/16-13 - A Resolution **For Action:** March 2, 2016
Opposing Charter Schools and Charter School
Legislation

II. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

There is no fiscal impact to changing the language in the Resolution 2015/16-13.

Expenditure: N/A One-time Annual Other Source

III. POLICY IMPLICATION

N/A

IV. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the Board amend the Resolution 2015/16-13 - A Resolution Opposing Charter Schools and Charter School Legislation as attached to the Board Action Report.

V. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

This motion was not discussed by a Board Committee.

VI. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The amendment proposed serves to include the different, targeted efforts that the Seattle School District is currently in the process of implementing to address the achievement gap for a variety of diverse populations served by the District. This highlights how the District has the ability and will to address the widely varying needs of its student population.

VII. STATEMENT OF ISSUE

Whether to approve Director Geary’s amendment to the Resolution 2015/16-13 - A Resolution Opposing Charter Schools and Charter School Legislation.

VIII. ALTERNATIVES

Do not approve this amendment. This is not recommended because the resolution as drafted would not accurately reflect all of the programs and efforts currently being made to serve Seattle

School District students, which once fully implemented may eliminate the need to create an alternative public school system to close the achievement gap in vulnerable student populations.

IX. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Upon approval of this motion, the Resolution 2015/16-13 - A Resolution Opposing Charter Schools and Charter School Legislation will be amended.

X. ATTACHMENTS

- Revised Resolution 2015/16-13 - A Resolution Opposing Charter Schools and Charter School Legislation

**Seattle School District No. 1
Board Resolution**

Resolution No. 2015/16-13



A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1, King County, Seattle, Washington opposing charter schools and charter school legislation.

WHEREAS, in conjunction with the Board of Directors' previously stated opposition to Initiative 1240 (I-1240), the Board of Directors supports the Washington State Supreme Court's decision, *League of Women Voters of Washington v. State*, 184 Wn.2d 393 (2015), which found that provisions of I-1240 that treat charter schools as common schools are unconstitutional and void;

WHEREAS, it is our role as elected members of the Board of Directors to support and maintain access to free and equal education for all students within our boundaries and to serve as local representatives of the public;

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court ruled in 2012, in its *McCleary v. State* 173 Wash.2d 477 decision, that the State is not adequately funding basic education, and our Legislature is currently several million dollars in arrears in contempt penalties;

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court ruled in 2015 that I-1240 impermissibly allowed for the establishment of individual schools funded by taxpayer dollars in a means not accountable to the public within the broader school boundaries in which they reside;

WHEREAS, as a publicly elected Board of Directors, we support the right of all Seattle citizens to retain locally-elected representatives who are accountable to the public; today, and for generations to come;

WHEREAS, the Seattle School Board of Directors asserts that funding charter schools draws local and state funding away from an already financially stressed system, causing greater hardship for the majority of schools and students within our boundaries;

WHEREAS, the Seattle School District does embrace innovation and educational options, as embodied by our Creative Approach Schools language in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Seattle School District and the Seattle Education Association;

WHEREAS, the Seattle School District already offers Alternative Learning Experience and option schools with a variety of educational opportunities, including social justice, environmental science, International Baccalaureate, and advanced learning;

WHEREAS, the Seattle School District also offers a variety of instructional approaches including Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM); Career and Technical Education (CTE); and Language Immersion; ~~and~~

WHEREAS, the Seattle School District promotes equitable outcomes for all students and embraces the need to address the whole child as recognized in its commitment to implement and direct resources toward social emotional learning curriculum, a continuum of educational placements, the African American Male initiative, and Native Education; and

WHEREAS, the Seattle School District remains ready, willing, and able to welcome and service the needs every student, including all former charter school students in our district;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Seattle School Board of Directors (1) requests that the Legislature focus on its paramount duty to amply fund K-12 educational needs first as mandated by the *McCleary* decision; (2) opposes charter schools and charter school legislation; and (3) disapproves of the establishment of Alternative Learning Experience (ALE) status for former charter schools when operated by non-resident school districts.

ADOPTED this 2nd day of March, 2016

Betty Patu, President

Sue Peters, Vice-President

Stephan Blanford, Member

Richard Burke, Member

Jill Geary, Member

Leslie Harris, Member

Scott Pinkham, Member

ATTEST: _____
Dr. Larry Nyland, Superintendent
Secretary, Board of Directors
Seattle School District No. 1
King County, WA