A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Seattle Public School District No. 1, King County, Seattle, Washington in support of goals-aligned partnerships for Career and Technical Education (CTE).

WHEREAS, Seattle Public Schools is committed that every student receives a high-quality education and graduates prepared for college, career, and life; and

WHEREAS, Career and Technical Education courses within the K-12 system provide middle and high school students with opportunities to acquire life and workplace skills and can inspire continuing vocational or post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS, Washington students who participate in CTE programs graduate at a 92% rate compared to an average 78% graduation rate across Washington State; and

WHEREAS, Seattle students who participate in CTE classes closely match the racial, economic, and gender composition of the District as a whole; and

WHEREAS, overall CTE participation in Seattle Public Schools is significantly lower than comparable neighboring and peer districts; and

WHEREAS, the urgency for expanding high-quality CTE coincides with our ongoing work to reimagine high schools, the 24 credit graduation requirement, growing student enrollment, and broad support for CTE in local, state, and national government; and

WHEREAS, authentic and effective CTE programs must be adequately funded and equipped, align with career and post-secondary opportunities, and engage industry and labor expertise for program design, curriculum, and efficacy; and

WHEREAS, student participation and engagement in CTE courses requires support of caring adults as educators, counselors, mentors, and advisors who are representative of student demographics;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, by the Board of Directors of Seattle Public Schools as follows:

I. We affirm our belief that CTE programs support our commitment to eliminate opportunity gaps and provide valuable learning experiences for all students.
II. We recognize that under the current budget and organizational constraints, CTE programs cannot sustainably operate at the highest quality levels and their potential for expansion is severely limited.

III. We encourage our partners - parents, parent organizations, higher education, labor organizations, government agencies, industry and philanthropic groups, community-based organizations, and others - to join us in support of sustainably funding, implementing, and expanding high-quality middle and high school CTE programs in Seattle Public Schools.

ADOPTED this 1st day of November, 2017

Sue Peters, President

Leslie Harris, Vice-President

Stephan Blanford, Member

Richard Burke, Member

Jill Geary, Member

Betty Patu, Member

Scott Pinkham, Member

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