



# **SCHOOL BOARD ACTION REPORT**

**DATE:** February 8, 2017  
**FROM:** Dr. Larry Nyland, Superintendent

## **1. TITLE**

Adopting Board Resolution 2016/17-13, Fully Funding Basic Education

**For Introduction:** February 15, 2017  
**For Action:** March 1, 2017

## **2. PURPOSE**

This motion would adopt a Board Resolution regarding the need to fully fund basic education, including delaying the levy cliff.

## **3. RECOMMENDED MOTION**

I move that the School Board adopt Resolution 2016/17-13, as attached to the Board Action Report.

## **4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- a. **Background:** Washington State’s Constitution states that amply funding education is the State’s paramount duty. In 2012, the Washington Supreme Court found the State has failed in its constitutional obligations to fully fund basic education. In addition, the state has created a manufactured crisis by reducing districts’ school levies by approximately \$500 million, but without fully funding education. As a result, the district is preparing to make devastating cuts to staff and services to students. This resolution calls on the state legislature to fully fund education and delay the levy cliff until that funding is fully implemented.
- b. **Alternatives:** Not adopt a resolution. This is not recommended as the district’s voice needs to be heard regarding the needlessly devastating cuts for which the district is preparing.
- c. **Research:** Washington is 43<sup>rd</sup> in the nation in state funding for K-12 education.

## **5. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE**

Fiscal impact to this action will be N/A. While adopting this resolution does not have a fiscal impact on the district, the purpose of the resolution is to encourage the legislature to fully fund basic education.

The revenue source for this motion is N/A.

Expenditure:  One-time  Annual  Multi-Year  N/A

Revenue:  One-time  Annual  Multi-Year  N/A

**6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

With guidance from the District’s Community Engagement tool, this action was determined to merit the following tier of community engagement:

- Not applicable
- Tier 1: Inform
- Tier 2: Consult/Involve
- Tier 3: Collaborate

**7. EQUITY ANALYSIS**

Not applicable.

**8. STUDENT BENEFIT**

Fully funding basic education, including delaying the levy cliff, would allow the district to avoid needless, destructive layoffs and the erosion of student services.

**9. WHY BOARD ACTION IS NECESSARY**

- Amount of contract initial value or contract amendment exceeds \$250,000 (Policy No. 6220)
- Amount of grant exceeds \$250,000 in a single fiscal year (Policy No. 6114)
- Adopting, amending, or repealing a Board policy
- Formally accepting the completion of a public works project and closing out the contract
- Legal requirement for the School Board to take action on this matter
- Board Policy No. \_\_\_\_\_, [TITLE], provides the Board shall approve this item
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_ Board Resolution \_\_\_\_\_

**10. POLICY IMPLICATION**

Not applicable.

**11. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

This motion was discussed at the Executive Committee meeting on February 2, 2017. The Committee reviewed the motion and moved it forward for consideration.

**12. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Upon approval of this motion, the adopted resolution will be distributed to the members of the Washington State Legislature.

**13. ATTACHMENTS**

- 2016/17-13 Resolution (for approval)

**Seattle School District #1  
Board Resolution**

**Resolution No. 2016/17-13**



**A RESOLUTION** of the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1, King County, Seattle, Washington, urging the Washington State Legislature to take immediate action to provide full funding for basic education.

**WHEREAS**, Washington’s Constitution says that ample funding for education is the State’s only paramount duty; and

**WHEREAS**, Washington is 43<sup>rd</sup> in the nation in state funding for K-12 education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Legislature defined basic education in 2009 and 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2012 the Washington Supreme Court found the State to have failed in their constitutional obligations to fully fund basic education, including steady and consistent progress to fully fund compensation obligations; and

**WHEREAS**, the State has ~~created a manufactured crisis by~~ reducing districts’ school levies by approximately \$500M but without fully funding education;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Seattle School Board calls for immediate action by the Legislature to do no harm by fully funding state obligations to provide ample and equitable education for all students and allow school districts to utilize levies for local needs.

ADOPTED this\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 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