

LAKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT

A RESOLUTION OF THE LAKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION'S AFFIRMATION, COMMITMENT, AND SUPPORT OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Lakewood Board of Education is committed to making policy and financial decisions that enable the school district to provide quality educational programs and services to the school-age children of our community; and

WHEREAS, the Lakewood School District Board of Education believes that a system of quality public education is one of the essential foundations to make a meaningful difference in today's and tomorrow's world; and

WHEREAS, the Lakewood School District Board of Education believes that education is the most important asset in maximizing the opportunities of an individual and a community; and

WHEREAS, the Lakewood School District Board of Education believes that without quality public education a great divide will exist between the educated and the uneducated; and

WHEREAS, the Lakewood School District Board of Education believes that well-funded, effective public schools are essential to developing empowered learners prepared to meet the challenges of a complex future; and

WHEREAS, public schools have a positive impact every day on the lives of countless students; dedicated school board members and school district employees who work countless hours to provide for the needs of learners of all ages, and

WHEREAS, quality public education for every child is integral to the democratic viability and economic future of our nation, by directly and indirectly contributing to the intellectual and physical development of all learners, regardless of heritage or circumstance; and

WHEREAS, all students have the capacity to learn at high levels and quality public education is the key to every learner having boundless opportunities to reach his or her dreams regardless of heritage or circumstance; and

WHEREAS, the potential for erosion of financial support for public education serves to deepen the inequalities and diminish the opportunities for every child; and

WHEREAS, as a student's first model of civic engagement, public education is both a product of, and a tribute to, our democratic principles. As always, we will defend those principles, students, and the integrity of our public schools.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the commitment to excellence is the hallmark of the Lakewood School District. As a school and community partnership, our promise is to provide the highest quality educational experience we can envision;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lakewood School District is committed to ensuring students have access to a free, high-quality education that addresses the needs of the whole child, a commitment to anti-discriminatory policies and practices, and support for a safe and welcoming school environment for every student, regardless of their gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, religion, or socioeconomic background;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby affirm its support for the public education system and will take any and all steps to ensure that a Thorough and Efficient (“T and E”) education and a Free and Appropriate Public Education (“FAPE”) is provided to students.