

Forest Grove School District 15 Resolution No. 14-15:RO3

School Funding

WHEREAS, school funding cutbacks during the Great Recession caused large, deleterious budget shortfalls and great harm to public education; and

WHEREAS, budget cutbacks resulted in fewer teachers, fewer counselors, larger class sizes, lost art and music classes, library cutbacks, fewer career and technical education classes, and more; and

WHEREAS, Oregon has one year less instructional time over the 1 - 12 years compared with the national average; and

WHEREAS, Oregon ranks 49th in student-teacher ratio and 46th in state expenditures on K - 12 as a percent of state taxable resources; and

WHEREAS, the proposed K - 12 2015-17 biennium budget of \$7.235 billion would be a cut of \$90 per student across the state and would mean further statewide cuts of teachers and curriculum; and

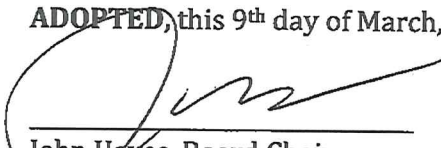
WHEREAS, the proposed \$7.235 billion budget would further erode the proportion of the state budget going to schools, which has fallen from 44.8% in 2003-05 to 39.7% in 2013-15—an 11.4% aggregate reduction—and would fall further in 2015-17; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Office of Economic Analysis, in its most recent revenue forecast, stated that "...2014 reveals a surprisingly solid economic year. 2015 is expected to be even better."

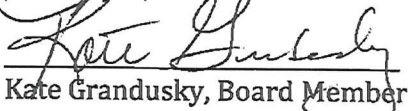
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest Grove School District Board of Directors implores the members of the 78th Session of the Oregon Legislative Assembly to:

Fund K-12 education at \$7.875 billion for the 2015-17 biennium, which would be a first step both toward returning schools to pre-recession levels of service and putting schools on a ten-year trajectory to a \$9.2 billion budget recommended by the Quality Education Commission.

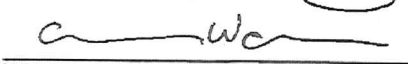
ADOPTED, this 9th day of March, 2015.



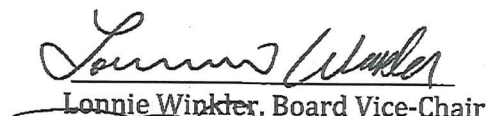
John Hayes, Board Chair



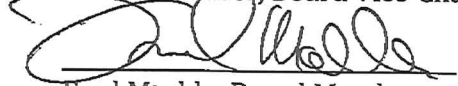
Kate Grandusky, Board Member



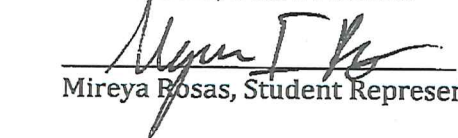
Charles Waterman, Board Member



Lonnie Winkler, Board Vice-Chair



Fred Marble, Board Member



Mireya Rosas, Student Representative