ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ELK GROVE, CALIFORNIA

LOCAL CONTROL FUNDING FORMULA RESOLUTION NO. 56, 2012-13

WHEREAS, the California Legislature is considering Governor Jerry Brown's proposed reform of the K-12 school financing system, referred to as the "Local Control Funding Formula;" and

WHEREAS, Governor Brown has proposed the new funding formula based on the principles of subsidiarity, equity and transparence; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the new system of finance is to modernize and simplify California's overly complex and historically outdated system; and

WHEREAS, California's long-term economic, social, and political health depend on the ability of its K-12 public education system to meet the needs of all its students; and

WHEREAS, the Local Control Funding Formula includes a Base Grant amount intended to provide for the basic educational program for all students, exclusive of extra services provided under Supplemental Grants; and

WHEREAS, this Base Grant provides for the Core Academic program at the heart of every school day for every student; and

WHEREAS, engaged educators agree that the funding level for this Base Grant must be sufficient to deliver core content and services within the state's expectations, including graduation rates, college and workforce readiness, and kindergarten readiness; and

WHEREAS, the proposed funding formula would provide a target base grant level projected to reach full implementation in seven years; and

WHEREAS, the new system as proposed in the Administration's Local Control Funding Formula also includes the funding of "Supplemental Grants" to address the greater needs of certain students, such as English learners and those from disadvantaged backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, in contrast to how Supplemental Grant funding levels were considered, these Base Grants are instead based on 2007-08 historical funding levels without factoring in billions of dollars in categorical funding available at the time; and

WHEREAS, even in 2007-08, California's funding for public schools was inadequate by almost any measure, with school staffing levels for teachers, counselors, nurses, and librarians among the worst in the country, with funding per student lagging far behind other technologically and industrially advanced states; and

WHEREAS, the proposed formula would also include concentration grants to provide additional funding to districts to address needs of English learners, students in poverty and students in foster care; and

WHEREAS, the proposed target level of the base grant for the new funding formula does not ensure that all Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) will receive funding levels restored to their pre-recession levels; and

WHEREAS, the application of the proposed "concentration factor" denies equitable funding for students having the same needs as their peers in other districts; and

WHEREAS, the currently-proposed new funding system does not establish a target that would bring California per pupil funding to at least the national average; and

WHEREAS, the new funding formula would hold Local Education Agencies (LEAs) accountable to their local communities for implementing the Common Core State Standards, improving student achievement, making progress in closing achievement gaps, increasing attendance and high school graduation rates, and improving preparation for college and career; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Board of the Elk Grove Unified School District that the Board supports the basic premises of the proposed Local Control Funding Formula and its reliance on local decision making and accountability to address the educational needs of all of its students; and

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED by the Governing Board of the Elk Grove Unified School District that the Board urges the Governor and the Legislature to develop the Local Control Funding Formula to provide that all Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) are at a minimum restored to the funding levels of 2007-08 and that the target for the base grant provide funding to California's public schools at least at the national average; and

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED by the Governing Board of the Elk Grove Unified School District that the Board calls for reconsideration or a revision to the concentration factor formula which recognizes the identified population students and funds them in a manner that ensures each eligible weighted student is not dependent on the district in which they reside, rather each child in identified population in California schools are funded at the same weight; and

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED by the Governing Board of the Elk Grove Unified School District that the Board calls for continued work on the development of a robust accountability system which aligns adequate resources to ensure that all students are making gains in academic achievement across a broad spectrum of learning opportunities, including career and technical education, in order to keep California competitive in a global economy.

Adopted this 16th day of April, 2013.