RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF GREAT SCHOOLS, THRIVING COMMUNITIES AMENDMENT 73

WHEREAS, the Westminster Public Schools Board of Education believes that every student should have the opportunity to reach his or her full potential and to participate meaningfully in the civic and economic life of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado way of life provides every student the chance to succeed regardless of their zip code or their learning needs; and

WHEREAS, quality public education develops a competitive workforce that will drive a vibrant Colorado economy for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, Colorado is experiencing a teacher shortage crisis and many teachers do not make enough salary to meet the cost of living; and

WHEREAS, Colorado's investment in education is lagging behind other states — Colorado ranks amongst the lowest states nationally in personal income invested in education; and

WHEREAS, education funding has not recovered from the recession; in the 2017-18 school year alone, Colorado schools were underfunded by nearly $830 million; and

WHEREAS, the loss to Westminster Public Schools has been over $90 million since 2009.; and

WHEREAS, reduced funding directly impacts the District's ability to provide educational opportunities for all students; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that Amendment 73, Great Schools, Thriving Communities, builds on the successes of Colorado's public schools by expanding students' educational opportunities to prepare them for success in college, career and life; preparing a qualified workforce for decades to come; and ensuring that Colorado's economic prosperity is shared with every community from corner to corner of the state; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that the Great Schools, Thriving Communities Amendment 73 will bring Colorado’s investment in public education closer to the national average by raising $1.6 billion dollars annually; provide sustainable support for schools by stabilizing school property taxes; provide additional funding for all students and address the most pressing needs of Colorado’s public schools — specifically, to fund full-day kindergarten, special education, English proficiency and preschool; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that the Great Schools, Thriving Communities Amendment 73 will give local school boards greater ability to respond to parent and community input and provide programs and services to meet the needs of all their students.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Westminster Public Schools Board of Education officially declares its support for the Great Schools, Thriving Communities Amendment 73 for the purpose of increasing funding of public education in the State of Colorado.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS ______ day of ____________________, 2018 by the Board of Education Directors of Westminster Public Schools

________________________________________  __________________________
Ryan McCoy, President                      Joe Davidek, Vice President

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Ken Ciancio, Secretary                      Max Math, Treasurer

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Larry Dean Valente, Board Director           Dr. Pamela Swanson, Superintendent