

PARKWAY BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION REJECTION OF CHARTER SCHOOL EXPANSION

Whereas, the General Assembly is currently debating whether to expand charter schools across the state of Missouri; and

Whereas, Parkway already provides innovative choice programs to our students including experiential learning, career and technical education, virtual learning and personalized education; and

Whereas, our school district strives to provide innovative educational experiences for our students and charter schools would only serve to dilute these resources and opportunities for students in our community; and

Whereas, in 2016 less than 50 percent of the charter schools in the State of Missouri met basic performance standards; and

Whereas, Parkway is a high-performing, accredited district with test scores in the top 10 percent in Missouri; and

Whereas, charter schools are classified as public schools and funded by state and local taxpayers but are governed by unelected boards; and

Whereas, if the General Assembly allows charter schools to expand into our school district, taxpayers in our community will not have a voice in whether a charter school is needed; and

Whereas, if charter schools open, money will be removed from our classrooms due to increased overhead and operating costs; and

Whereas, if only 300 students who reside in the Parkway community, regardless of whether they currently attend Parkway or not, enroll in a charter school, \$3,594,500 or the equivalent of 50 teachers will be removed from Parkway classrooms; and

Whereas, since 1999 twenty-one charter schools have failed in the St. Louis and Kansas City School Districts costing state and local taxpayers more than \$620 million; and

Whereas, our local taxpayers demand effective and efficient use of the resources they provide Parkway;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Parkway School District hereby urge legislators in the General Assembly to reject the expansion of charter schools in the State of Missouri.

Adopted by the PARKWAY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION this 8th day of March, 2017.

Chris Jacob, President

Dr. Sam Sciortino, Vice President

Dee Mogerman, Director

Sudhir Rathod, Director

Beth Feldman, Director

Kim Appelbaum, Director

Deborah Hopper, Director

Dr. Keith Marty, Superintendent