

RESOLUTION

Support New Jersey Schools on Maintaining Weighting Practice in the School Funding Reform Act of 2008 Calculation of Projected Enrollments

WHEREAS, the Department of Education has recommended to the New Jersey State Legislature that the funding of our public schools in the State of New Jersey shall be based upon new “weights” for “at risk”, “LEP”, and “LEP and Low Income” students which is contrary to current law (The School Funding Reform Act of 2008 -- SFRA) which provides specific weights of a greater value; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education’s new weighting system means that school districts will suffer a loss of school aid for the 2013-14 school year; and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Woodbury City Board of Education that the new, NJDOE weights have been arbitrarily determined and are contrary to the original formation of the weighting system established in School Funding Reform Act of 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education new weights removes funding for those students most in need and simply shifts the burden to support a thorough and efficient education to the local taxpayer; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey state legislature has rejected this new weighting system in the past on two different occasions – when the 2012-13 budget was submitted for approval and when the NJDOE Education Adequacy Report was returned by concurrent resolutions (SCR-134 and ACR-172) objecting to a change to the weights that was not based on empirical evidence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Woodbury City Board of Education does hereby declare that the recommendation of the Department of Education to provide school funding based upon the new weighting system for “at-risk” and “LEP” children for the 2013-14 school year is contrary to current law and fails to recognize the appropriate level of support needed to meet the educational goals of this targeted population of students; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Woodbury City Board of Education hereby requests it’s local legislators in particular and all legislators in general to reject the recommendation made by the N.J. Department of Education to fund the public schools of the State of New Jersey based upon a formula utilizing new weights and to comply with our current SFRA law.

Board President

Board Secretary

Date

(SEAL)