



**Resolution by the Mooresville Graded School District Board of Education  
Regarding Pay Increases for Teachers, Bus Drivers, and Other School Employees**

**WHEREAS**, the Mooresville Graded School District Board of Education supports a competitive market salary to recruit and retain high-quality, full-time teachers and other school employees, including bus drivers; and,

**WHEREAS**, inadequate pay is a long-standing issue for teachers and teacher vacancies have increased dramatically; and,

**WHEREAS**, at the beginning of the 2022-23 school year, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction reported 5,540 teacher vacancies on the first day of classes – a 46% increase from the 2021-22 school year; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Senate budget proposal allocates approximately \$407.4 million over the biennium for pay increases to all school district personnel, compared to the House proposal of \$1,068 billion over the biennium – a difference of more than \$660 million; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Senate proposal includes an average 4.5% increase in teacher pay over the biennium; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Senate pay plan for teachers with 14 or more years of experience includes a salary increase of \$200 in the first year of the biennium and an additional \$50 in the second year; and,

**WHEREAS**, the House's budget proposal includes a minimum pay increase of 7.5% for all school employees, an average 10.2% increase for teachers, master's pay, and a 9.5% boost in salary for bus drivers; and,

**WHEREAS**, at the beginning of the 2022-23 school year, 98 of the State's 115 local superintendents responded to a survey conducted by the North Carolina Superintendents Association that showed there were 11,297 school staff vacancies across North Carolina, including 1,342 bus drivers; and,

**WHEREAS**, districts statewide are facing a crisis because of the school bus driver shortage; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Senate proposal includes a salary increase of 2.5% in each year of the biennium for school bus drivers which is almost half of that proposed by the House; and,

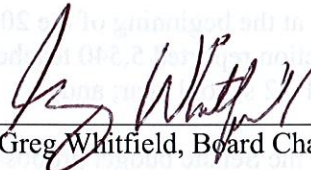
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mooresville Graded School District Board of Education opposes Edition 5 of House Bill 259, "2023 Appropriations Act" and favors Edition 3 of House Bill 259, "2023 Appropriations Act" that includes an average 10.2% increase in teacher pay over the biennium and a 9.5% increase in bus driver pay over the biennium.



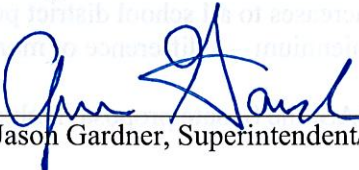
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that

1. The Chair and Superintendent are authorized to disseminate this Resolution to members of the General Assembly and the Governor, and
2. The Board encourages parents, students, and other community members to contact their North Carolina legislators to implore them to abide by their oath to uphold the North Carolina State Constitution.

Adopted by the Mooresville Graded School District Board of Education this **26th day of May, 2023**

  
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Mr. Greg Whitfield, Board Chair

Attest:

  
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Dr. Jason Gardner, Superintendent/Secretary