

December 3, 2013

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA
BASED UPON ENROLLMENT NOT ATTENDANCE
FOR THE 2014-2015 BUDGET**

RESOLUTION

State Aid – Based on Enrollment!

Whereas, the School funding Reform Act of 2008 provides that the funding formula for school aid shall be based on the “enrollment” of resident district children, and

Whereas, the State Legislature, through budget adoption language over the past two years, has modified the funding formula to provide that funding be adjusted based upon the “attendance” of resident children, and

Whereas, the Department of Education has determined that an appropriate average daily attendance rate of 96% shall be the level of attendance for all New Jersey school districts, and districts that demonstrate an attendance rate of less than 96% shall suffer a loss of school aid, and

Whereas, a 96% attendance rate is equal to a child being absent from school no more than seven days in one school year, and

Whereas, it is the opinion of the Black Horse Pike Regional Board of Education that a 96% attendance rate is an arbitrary standard to apply to all New Jersey School Districts and is contrary to the history of funding in this State and the School Funding Reform Act of 2008, and

Whereas, New Jersey school districts must staff, equip, feed, and transport our children based upon the enrollment of students, and we do not send teachers home, or stop the buses, or turn off the lights, or sell their textbooks when a child is absent for health or other family reasons, and

Whereas, a loss of state aid due to average daily attendance simply shifts the burden to support a thorough and efficient education to the local taxpayer,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Black Horse Pike Regional Board of Education hereby urges the Department of Education and the New Jersey State Legislature to fully fund the School Funding Reform Act of 2008 and to avoid modifying the formula in such a way as to penalize districts based on the attendance of children and to recognize that districts provide staff and resources for an adequate public education for all “enrolled” resident children, and

Be it Further Resolved that the Black Horse Pike Regional Board of Education directs the School Business Administrator to distribute a copy of this resolution to local legislators, the Commissioner of Education, the New Jersey School Boards Association, and the New Jersey Association of School Business Administrators.



4 AAA DRIVE SUITE 101
ROBBINSVILLE NEW JERSEY. 088691
p: (609) 689-3870
f: (609) 689-3167