

**RESOLUTION URGING LEGISLATIVE ACTION ON
SCHOOL EMPLOYEE PENSION REFORM**

**BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, in the coming fiscal year, school officials must figure out how to pay employee pension obligations, with the total employer contributions for 2015-16 projected by the Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS) at \$3.4 billion; and

WHEREAS, beginning in July, 2015, the annual employer contribution rate that must be paid by school districts will jump to 25.84%, up from 21.40% in 2014-15, and will continue to climb to a staggering 32.23% by 2019-20; and

WHEREAS, the increases in the employer contribution shown in the Boyertown Area School District's projected expenditures for the next five years reflect extraordinary costs as follows; and

Fiscal Year	Contribution Rate	District Projected Expenditures
2015-16	25.84%	\$13,152,450
2016-17	29.69%	\$15,047,288
2017-18	30.62%	\$15,706,603
2018-19	31.56%	\$16,403,820
2019-20	32.23%	\$16,991,589

WHEREAS, understanding that pension costs are taking a greater share of available revenues, leaving less funding for true basic education costs directed toward student learning, these projections present critical problems that effectively force the addition of significantly higher financial burdens on taxpayers, school districts and the commonwealth and consequently demand both a short-term and a long-term solution; and

WHEREAS, a meaningful solution to these problems must involve the identification of another funding source for PSERS, decreasing or cutting the costs/liabilities of the system, including benefit levels, and deferring the system's liabilities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Boyertown Area School District calls upon the General Assembly to begin immediate consideration of school employee pension reform with the dual purpose of reducing projected employer contribution rate increases over the next five years and reducing projected costs to school districts, taxpayers and the commonwealth over the next two decades, while maintaining an appropriate pension benefit school employees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the elected senators and representatives of the Boyertown Area School District in the General Assembly, and to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Adopted this 14th day of April, 2015.

Signed,

Stephen Eliser
School Board President

David A. Szablowski
Board Secretary (seal)