

**RESOLUTION URGING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ESTABLISH A NEW
FUNDING FORMULA FOR BASIC EDUCATION**

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

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's more than 1.8 million public school students deserve the highest quality education; and

WHEREAS, the state's contribution in funding public education as a percentage of basic instructional expenses has declined from over 50% during the mid 1970's, to less than 35% today; and, on average, other states contribute 44% of total education funding; and Pennsylvania ranks 47th among the 50 states in the amount of state subsidies allocated to support elementary and secondary education, and ranks 8th in reliance on local taxes; and

WHEREAS, as the state's share of K-12 education funding decreases while the number of state and federal mandates for public schools steadily increases each year, additional burden is placed on local taxpayers to make up the difference to ensure that our students' education is not jeopardized; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, basic education funding has been distributed without the benefit of a funding formula, with the lack of a reliable, fair and transparent funding formula resulting in great disparities in how state education funds are distributed to school districts; and

WHEREAS, these inequities effectively harm the ability of school districts to adequately and fairly provide the resources for the different needs of their students, especially those in poverty, those with disabilities, English language learners and other students; and

WHEREAS, the Boyertown Area School District supports the development of a system of public school financing that addresses the needs of school districts and students, and establishes a school funding formula that is equitable, adequate, comprehensive and consistent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Boyertown Area School District urges the General Assembly to reinvest its interest in the support of public schools by taking legislative action to establish a formula that is predictable and addresses adequacy and equity for all school districts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Boyertown Area School District will encourage others, including parents, students and district taxpayers, to contact the Pennsylvania General Assembly to convey the importance of establishing a fair and equitable public school funding formula; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution 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, 2014.

Signed,

Stephen Elsier
School Board President

David A. Szablowski
Board Secretary (seal)