**Resolution Opposing Education Savings Accounts and Voucher Expansion**

**WHEREAS**, the Indiana General Assembly during its 2021 legislative session is considering a series of bills that establish Education Savings Accounts (ESAs) and expand the Choice Scholarship voucher program.

**WHEREAS**, the Board has determined that the Indiana General Assembly should not enact Education Savings Accounts, or expand private school vouchers, and should continue to promote and fully invest in Indiana’s public schools, more specifically, *(pick any provisions below that apply or add your own relevant provisions)*

* *To further the public good, public funds should be invested in improving the schools designed to serve all children and to aid in improving Indiana public school teachers’ salaries as recommended by the Governor’s Teacher Compensation Commission in its report of December 14, 2020.*
* *Indiana already has school choice in the form of open enrollment, charter schools, enrollment in virtual online schools, and the Choice Scholarship program.*
* *Public schools are required to operate in an open, transparent way with all expenditures and decision-making. Nonpublic schools are not held to that same public standard.*
* *Legislators should reduce the over-regulation of state and federal bureaucracy that hinders the ability of local schools to innovate and be responsive to parent and community needs.*

**WHEREAS**, Education Savings Accounts and private school vouchers are funded exclusively by our state’s school tuition support appropriation, further providing fewer public dollars to increase teacher salaries and adequately fund our public schools, which educate more than 90% of Hoosier children.

**WHEREAS**, the Board believes that public schools provide a strong educational environment for Indiana’s children and that Education Savings Accounts, if enacted, together with expanded school vouchers, would put this environment at risk by directing resources away from public schools to nonpublic schools and/or home schools that are not subject to the same rigorous scrutiny for their use of taxpayer resources.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved, the School Board of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ opposes the passage and signing of any bill expanding private school vouchers and/or creating Education Savings Accounts.

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of , 2021.

Board President Board Secretary

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