

The Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township

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Education Center

1220 South High School Road

Indianapolis, Indiana 46241



Board of Education

Joint Resolution Between the M.S.D. of Wayne Township School Board and the Wayne Township Classroom Teachers Association Opposing the Establishment of Education Scholarship Accounts and the Expansion of the Indiana School Choice Scholarship Program

WHEREAS, the Indiana General Assembly during the 2021 legislative session is considering the establishment of education savings accounts (ESAs) that funnel state funding to parents who withdraw their children from public schools, as well as a significant expansion of the Indiana school choice scholarship program through House Bill 1005; and

WHEREAS, education savings accounts give parents a portion of per-pupil state funding to spend like a taxpayer-funded debit card on education products and services, including private school tuition, unregulated home schools, and tutoring; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of the Indiana school choice scholarship program proposed in House Bill 1005 would direct additional resources to non-public schools that are not held accountable to taxpayers for the use of public funds; and

WHEREAS, this type of legislation does not give choice to families but to nonpublic schools as nonpublic schools can choose who they educate and public funds should only be used for education that is open and inclusive to all Indiana students; and

WHEREAS, public funds should be invested in public schools, which serve all children; and

WHEREAS, non-public schools lack fiscal transparency, public oversight, taxpayer accountability, and are not required to enroll all children; and

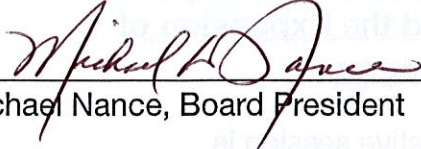
WHEREAS, the costs of Education Savings Accounts and school vouchers are covered exclusively by our state's school tuition support fund, further providing fewer public dollars to fund our public schools and increase teacher salaries; and

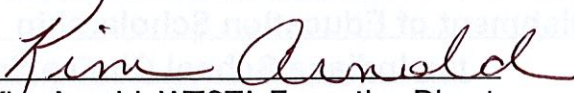
WHEREAS, House Bill 1005 creates an education scholarship account program called the "Indiana education scholarship account program"; and

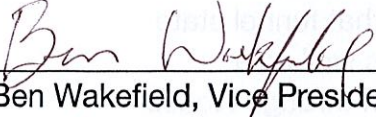
WHEREAS, this legislation would further erode the financial support provided to Indiana's public schools, which serve over 90% of Indiana's students, and divert resources away from improving Indiana public school teachers' salaries as recommended by the Governor's Teacher Compensation Commission report, released on December 14, 2020; and

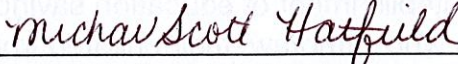
NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, the school board of the M.S.D. of Wayne Township and the Wayne Township Classroom Teachers Association opposes and condemns the establishment of education scholarship accounts and the expansion of the Indiana choice scholarship program as proposed by members of Indiana's General Assembly in House Bill 1005.

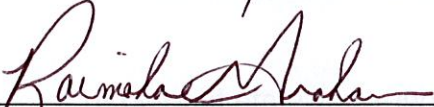
Approved this 8th day of March, 2021


Michael Nance, Board President

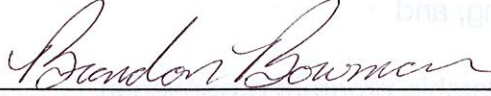

Kim Arnold, WTCTA Executive Director

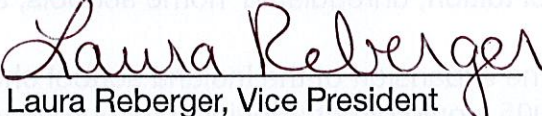

Ben Wakefield, Vice President


Scott Hatfield, WTCTA President

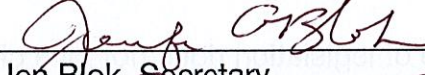

Raimeka Graham, Board Secretary


Michelle Hine, Vice President

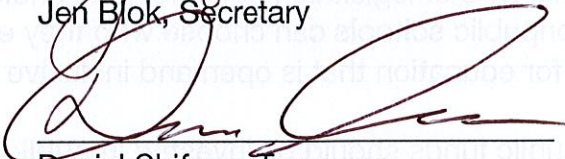

Brandon Bowman, Member



Laura Reberger, Vice President

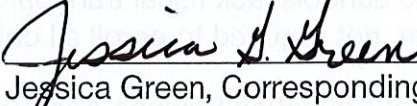

Karen Burke, Member

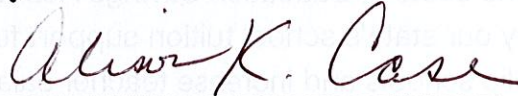

Jen Blok, Secretary

ABSENT
Shirley Deckard, Member


Daniel Shifano, Treasurer


Susan Graves, Member


Jessica Green, Corresponding Secretary


Alison Case, Past President