

West Lafayette Community School Corporation

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Rocky D. Killion
Superintendent of Schools

BOARD RESOLUTION House Bill 1005

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WHEREAS: House Bill 1005 also known as **School Scholarships** and also known as the **School Voucher** bill is pending before the House of Representatives and the Senate; and

WHEREAS: This bill is unsound public policy because it will cause financial instability among Indiana public schools and undercut the ability of public schools to provide instructional programs; and

WHEREAS: The stated intent of the legislation is to provide vouchers to low income families, but the bill provides a 90% voucher for families of four earning up to \$109,000 in 2021-22 and a 90% voucher for families of four earning up to \$145,000 in 2022-23; and

WHEREAS: The voucher expansion section of House Bill 1005 is estimated to undermine the funding available to public schools by \$65 million; and

WHEREAS: The Education Savings Account section of House Bill 1005 undermines the central purpose of public education to teach every student about democracy and the US Constitution; and

WHEREAS: Private schools are highly selective of the students they accept based on wealth, achievement level, behavior and religion (ultimately resulting in disproportionately small numbers of minority students being accepted); and

WHEREAS: Private School vouchers and scholarships will further reduce State tax revenue that could otherwise be used to implement needed policies and programs like increasing teacher salaries, mandatory Kindergarten, full-day Kindergarten and preschool instruction; and

WHEREAS: The Constitution of the State of Indiana states, "No money shall be drawn from the treasury, for the benefit of any religious or theological institution;" and

WHEREAS: The Constitution of the State of Indiana states in Article 8 "it shall be the duty of the General Assembly . . . to provide, by law, for a general and uniform system of Common Schools . . . equally open to all; and

WHEREAS: The Indiana Bill of Rights in Article I, Section 23 of the Indiana Constitution on Immunities and privileges states: "The General Assembly shall not grant to any . . . class of citizens, privilege . . . which, upon the same terms, shall not equally belong to all citizens;"

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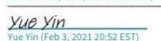
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: That the undersigned Board of School Trustees of the West Lafayette Community School Corporation call upon all elected officials to vote **AGAINST** passage of **House Bill 1005**.

Adopted this 1st day of February 2021.

Board of Trustees Signatures:


Alan R. Karpick (Feb 3, 2021 09:07 EST)


Rachel Witt (Feb 3, 2021 14:43 EST)


Yue Yin (Feb 3, 2021 20:52 EST)


Tom Schott (Feb 4, 2021 06:35 EST)


Bradley W. Marley (Feb 3, 2021 14:25 EST)


Amy E. Austin (Feb 3, 2021 19:05 EST)


Karen S. Springer (Feb 4, 2021 07:27 EST)