SPOKANE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 81

Resolution No. 2020-05

A BOARD RESOLUTION THAT REDUCED EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS COULD CREATE THE NECESSITY FOR A REDUCTION OF CERTIFICATED AND CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES AND TO SUSPEND THE EMPLOYEE WORKLOAD PROVISIONS OF THE CERTIFICATED AND CLASSIFIED BARGAINING AGREEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of Spokane School District No. 81 (the “District”) is committed to the District’s mission of excellence for everyone and ensuring the District continues to provide educational services that prepare students to successfully complete some form of higher education: technical, 2-year or 4-year; and

WHEREAS, sufficient financial resources are not reasonably assured to restore programs to the 2018-2019 levels; general uncertainty exists due to structural changes in the funding of educational services, the impact of COVID-19; a net loss of financial resources will likely result from several factors, including, but not limited to, reductions in state funding, reductions to local revenues, increased expenditures; and

WHEREAS, this lack of adequate resources and general uncertainty negatively impacts the District’s ability to restore educational programs and services for the 2020-2021 school year; and

WHEREAS, prior to the Board of Directors taking action on this resolution, the District has provided financial and personnel impacts to the Board of Directors and has consulted with its labor groups at labor/management meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has been given the fiduciary responsibility to maintain the District’s fiscal health at reasonable levels of financial stability and pursuant to Board Policy No. 6022, recognizes the importance of maintaining sufficient fund balances in all District funds; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors is accountable to the citizens and patrons of the Spokane School District to provide an appropriate public educational program for students; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic is ongoing and the financial impacts are expected to be significant for several fiscal years; and

WHEREAS, suspending the workload provision of the collective bargaining agreements will result in a savings of approximately $7.7 million: and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent recommends that the Board of Directors adopt a modified educational program;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Spokane School District No. 81 that a financial emergency exists for the 2020-2021 school year and a general uncertainty exists regarding the projected budget for the 2020-2021 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Directors that the Superintendent is directed to work with district administration and labor groups to implement a Modified Educational Program that includes any of the following or any combination of the following, but is not limited to:

1. Reduction in force due to attrition
2. Reduction of current staffing levels
3. Suspension of workload provisions
4. Reduction of current programs and services

Adopted this 29th day of April 2020 in Spokane, Washington.

MEMBERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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ATTEST:

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Secretary, Board of Directors