



**L202300074**

**SEARCY CO, AR FEE \$0.00**

PRESENTED: 01-10-2023 09:43:25 AM

RECORDED: 01-10-2023 09:43:25 AM

DEBBIE LOGGINS  
COUNTY AND CIRCUIT CLERK

BY: CASSIE TREAT  
DEPUTY CLERK

**BK: COUN 42**

**PG: 447-448**

**Resolution NO. 2023-01**

**A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE COMMITMENT OF THE COUNTY OF SEARCY, ARKANSAS TO SUPPORT KEEPING THE ST. JOE K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOL INTACT AND REMAINING ON THE ST. JOE CAMPUS.**

WHEREAS, the St. Joe K-12 is the best public school in Searcy County and within the Ozark Mountain School District (OMSD) as released in the annual Report Card by the Arkansas Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the St. Joe community and Searcy County leaders were never sufficiently approached by the OMSD to enlist community support and cooperation in finding a solution short of consolidation; and

WHEREAS, dismemberment and eventually closing the St. Joe School is bad for the students as they will have earlier wakeups, a longer bus commute, later returns home, and less exercise and play time after school which will be counter to the need to reverse Searcy County's already poor health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, consolidation of grades 7 to 12 also causes a loss of jobs in St. Joe, is detrimental to area businesses, and takes badly needed economic stimulus out of Searcy County, a Persistent Poverty County; and

WHEREAS, consolidation actions disenfranchise poor parents in a remote school district and take educational involvement further away from transportation-challenged parents, a vast majority of which want to keep their school intact; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Quorum Court of the County of Searcy, Arkansas:**

Section 1: It is the policy of the County of Searcy, Arkansas to uphold excellence in local education as well as strong parental involvement.

Section 2: The County of Searcy, Arkansas commits itself to support the K-12 St. Joe School and the St. Joe community that sustains it.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 9 day of January, 2023.

APPROVED:

By: Tony Norton

ATTEST: Debbie Ferguson