

A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNING COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico has record annual revenue and reserve funding with no reason to engage in austerity measures that negatively impact student achievement, particularly for students from marginalized subgroup populations; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Legislature passed House Bill 63, which was signed into law by Governor Lujan-Grisham; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature initially proposed a \$5,000,000 hold-harmless fund to offset potential reductions caused by House Bill 63, which was later reduced to \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the originally intended \$5,000,000 in hold-harmless funding was insufficient to meet the statewide shortfall; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Council reviewed the proposed budget for East Mountain High School, a state-authorized charter school, for Fiscal Year 2025–2026; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for East Mountain High School for Fiscal Year 2025–2026 includes a reduction of \$351,125 in at-risk funding; and

WHEREAS, East Mountain High School is slated to receive just \$20,000 in hold-harmless funds for Fiscal Year 2025–2026; and

WHEREAS, even with record-high student enrollment, East Mountain High School is in jeopardy of not providing the same level of academic support to students because of these reductions; and

WHEREAS, East Mountain High School is consistently ranked among the top public high schools in New Mexico, earning a “Spotlight” designation on the NM Vistas accountability system and being ranked #1 among all high schools in New Mexico, and

WHEREAS, East Mountain High School has demonstrated annually through its mandated Education Plan reporting that it has invested its at-risk funding to benefit Martinez-Yazzie subgroups, producing outcomes that far exceed state averages—including receiving the U.S. Dept. of Education National Blue Ribbon Award for closing the achievement gap for our economically disadvantaged students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF EAST MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL that it requests the New Mexico Legislature immediately fix the hold-harmless calculation and provide adequate funding to support marginalized students at ALL schools in New Mexico. Rather than penalizing high-performing schools with proven track records—such as East Mountain High School—the Legislature should study and promote the strategies that have driven these successes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico Legislature shift the statewide educational funding formula to restore funding to the schools harmed by House Bill 63.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 27th day of May, 2025.

Governing Council President
East Mountain High School