

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Livonia, Michigan

March 21, 2011

GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District is desirous of providing quality education for the students it serves; and

WHEREAS, The Governor has proposed drastic cuts to K-12 schools across the state; and

WHEREAS, The combined funding loss per student, including state mandated retirement cost increases, is over \$700 per student, which equates to over \$11 million; and

WHEREAS, The Livonia Public Schools School District has already reduced its budget by \$44 million this decade; and

WHEREAS, The Livonia Public Schools School District has been proactive in reducing costs, including closing schools, negotiating employee concessions, reducing administrative costs, implementing programs to reduce health care, general liability insurance and energy costs, among many other items; and

WHEREAS, The Livonia Public Schools School District has reduced costs by sharing services for food service, purchasing supplies and goods, teacher professional development, bus maintenance, and a variety of student programs, among many other things; and

WHEREAS, The Livonia Public Schools School District has reduced its support services budgets by over 30%; and

WHEREAS, The state of Michigan has increased retirement costs to local districts over the two years beginning in 2010-2011 by 44%; and

WHEREAS, The community in the Livonia Public Schools School District continues to support its schools through overwhelming millage approvals and parental support; and

WHEREAS, The Governor's proposed budget will put the Livonia Public Schools School District into deficit, causing a negative impact on programs for students; and

WHEREAS, A recent *Detroit Free Press* poll of Michigan citizens clearly indicates they do not support any additional funding cuts to their public schools; and

WHEREAS, If the Governor's budget proposal is approved, it will have a devastating impact on the remaining programs and services provided to students; so

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District implores legislators and the Governor to reject the current proposal from the Governor for school funding for the 2011-2012 school year, as it will have a significant negative impact on our community and the entire state of Michigan.

Robert J. Freeman, Secretary
Livonia Board of Education