RESOLUTION OF THE BROWNWOOD ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGARDING GRADING AND CLASS RANK POLICIES DURING PERIODS OF SCHOOL CLOSURE AND GRANTING THE SUPERINTENDENT CERTAIN AUTHORITY RELATED TO GRADE REPORTING

WHEREAS, The Governor of Texas has determined that a State of Disaster exists in McCulloch County and every county in Texas due to the public health risks posed by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the recent COVID-19 outbreak has resulted in the closure of schools statewide and is reasonably anticipated to interfere with the regular operation of schools within the Brownwood Independent School District in the coming weeks and months; and

WHEREAS, Brownwood ISD administrators continue to respond daily to new recommendations and guidance related to public health and safety from local, state, and national educational and public health officials during this rapidly developing situation; and

WHEREAS, Brownwood ISD will be required to close its schools or otherwise suspend normal operations for periods of time to protect public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, Brownwood ISD will be unable to resume normal instruction for an extended period of time and the ability to administer the current policies and guidelines for student grading will be impossible or impractical, a temporary suspension or modification of certain policies and guidelines related to student grading will ensure fairness in the process for all students; and

WHEREAS, Brownwood ISD Board Policy EIC (LOCAL) currently provides that for purposes of determining local graduation honors, top ten percent, and academic honors, and student class rank should be determined for graduating seniors on grades available at the time of the calculation at the end of the 5th Six Weeks; and

WHEREAS, Board Policy EIA (LOCAL) provides guidelines for student grading and number of student assignments to ensure mastery of course objectives, as well as progress reporting to parents every six weeks; and

WHEREAS, Brownwood ISD policy and procedures require that students be issued numerical grades, that teachers provide a specific number of assignments, and that the District issue regular progress reports, and based on the necessity of trying to move students to an online teaching methodology which makes providing the same instruction and grades impractical if not impossible; and

WHEREAS, based on a student's performance and engagement during normal instruction as well as home based learning, teachers will determine whether a student has "Passed" or "Failed" the course objectives, which information will assist grade placement committees in making decisions regarding student retention, promotion, and the awarding of credit; and WHEREAS, Brownwood ISD Board Policy EIA (LOCAL) requires that grade reports be issued for students every six weeks and interim reports be issued after the third week of every grading period; and

WHEREAS, due to emergency school closure(s) or related suspensions of normal operations, Brownwood ISD may not be in a position to assign grades for the fifth or sixth six weeks grading period for the 2019-2020 school year, as required by Board policy EIC (LOCAL), or issue grade reports or progress reports in accordance with EIA (LOCAL); and

WHEREAS, these one-time modifications of Board policies and grading procedures are intended to ensure fairness to all students in light of the current unprecedented circumstances.

Now therefore it be resolved by the Board that:

- 1. The Board determines that a temporary modification of Board Policy EIC (LOCAL) shall be implemented to allow calculation of grade point averages, for all purposes, using those grades available at the end of the Fall semester for all students taking high school credit courses; and
- 2. Final class rank for purposes of local graduation honors, academic honors, and class rank for the class of 2020 only, shall be determined using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the Fall semester of the student's senior year; and
- 3. The Board determines that a temporary modification of Board Policy EIA (LOCAL) shall be implemented to allow a determination of "Pass" or "Incomplete"; and
- 4. The Board suspends all grading policies and procedures during the pendency of the time the District is closed and students are not physically coming to the district facilities for instruction and the Superintendent is hereby granted the authority to determine how and whether grades may be issued for the final Spring Semester grading period of the 2019-2020 school year; and
- 5. Students in the graduating class of 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 will be assigned a numerical semester grade for the 2020 Spring semester based on their pass/incomplete status. Students who receive a "Pass" will be given the maximum grade points allowed for each course; students who are not at the level of "Pass" at the end of the semester should be given an "I" for incomplete. Students with an "Incomplete" will have until the beginning of the fall 2020 semester to complete assigned work. On the first day of the fall 2020 semester, any remaining "Incomplete" grades convert to a 69. These Spring 2020 grade points will be figured into students' GPAs, for the purpose of calculating top ten percent; and
- 6. Students in grades 7 and below will be given "Pass" or "Incomplete" at the end of the Spring 2020 semester. Students with an "Incomplete" will have until the beginning of the Fall 2020 semester to complete assigned work. On the first day of the fall 2020 semester, any remaining "Incomplete" grades convert to "Fail."

- 7. The Superintendent is hereby granted the authority to determine whether interim progress reports will be provided after the third week of grading periods in the 2019-2020 school year; and
- 8. If the Superintendent determines that interim progress reports will not be provided for a grading period, the requirement to provide interim progress reports under Board Policy EIA (LOCAL) is waived for those grading periods; and
- 9. The measures described in paragraph number two above shall not impact the District's ability to calculate class rank for purposes of admission to application to Texas institutions of higher education, as required by state law; and
- 10. The Board hereby authorizes the Superintendent to take any other actions as necessary to fulfill the purpose of this Resolution, including suspension or modification of other grading procedures, regulations, rules or practices.