

MEETING DATE: November 16, 2015

AGENDA ITEM: Consider a Resolution to the Governor of Texas Related to the

Commissioner of the Texas Education Agency Vacancy.

PRESENTER: Dr. Derek Citty, Superintendent

ALIGNS TO BOARD GOAL(S): All

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The current commissioner of Education, Mr. Michael Williams, has announced his retirement, effective the end of the current calendar year.

Mr. Williams is the last in a line of non-practitioners who have been appointed to this important position by the current and previous two governors of Texas. The most recent commissioners have come from a non-education background and, to some degree, have faced significant challenges due to this lack of experience in public education.

The Administration believes the students and educators across the state would benefit from a return to the appointment of a practitioner to this position. There is no substituting for the knowledge of culture and climate that goes with that experience to assist in making that person successful for the students and teachers of our state.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION(S): The attached DRAFT resolution is being considered by a number of Districts across the state. It is hoped that with enough encouragement, Governor Abbott will take this advice and appoint an experienced public school educator to this role.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no known impact to the 2015-16 budget associated with consideration of this item.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMENDATION: Administration recommends Trustees ratify the proposed resolution, sign the document as a group and send the document to Governor Abbot for his consideration.