

RESOLUTION 2017-02

WHEREAS the State of Wisconsin by state statute has indicated that public school districts in the State of Wisconsin cannot start school before September 1 pursuant to *Wis. Stat. sec. 118.045 Commencement of school term*; and

WHEREAS the school board may commence a school term prior to September 1st if it submits a written request to the Department of Public Instruction asking for an earlier start date listing the extraordinary reason for the earlier start date request; and

WHEREAS local control over the start date would allow for additional days of instruction for students prior to state and local assessments, and preparation for the ACT and Advanced Placement; and

WHEREAS local control over the start date would allow the Unified School District of Antigo to align its school calendar with post-secondary institutions to better meet the needs of our students; and

WHEREAS local control over the start date would allow the Unified School District of Antigo to adjust its calendar to allow for non-instructional days the week of hunting/ Thanksgiving in order to prevent the extremely high student absentee rate during the week of school due to the culture of the hunting season in the north woods being a strong family tradition, and to prevent ending the school year the 2nd week in June; and

WHEREAS local control over the start date will allow the Unified School District of Antigo to better align its school calendar with the co-curricular schedule for students that begin in early August; and

WHEREAS tourism has changed to where most tourists leave Wisconsin because regionally in other states public schools start in early to mid-August; and

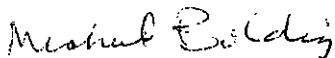
WHEREAS charter and voucher school districts have the flexibility to start prior to September 1st and still receive public funding from the State of Wisconsin.

WHEREAS the State Superintendent is recommending in his 2017-2019 Biennial Budget to allow the Milwaukee Public School District to be provided an exception to this provision in the state law *to allow the district to maximize learning opportunities*; therefore, this opportunity should be granted for all school districts in the State of Wisconsin.

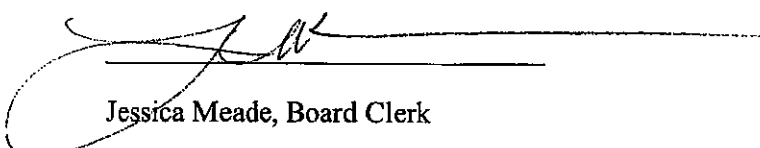
BE IT RESOLVED that the Unified School District of Antigo will be better able to educate its school children because of this flexibility as greater outcomes are anticipated academically as well as preventing absenteeism and for the safety of students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on January 24, 2017, the Unified School District of Antigo passed this Resolution in order to establish local control for the school calendar year by a 9-0 vote.

Dated this 24th day of January, 2017.



Mike Boldig, Board President



Jessica Meade, Board Clerk



Brian Misfeldt, District Administrator