

RESOLUTION in Support of the Wisconsin Voucher Transparency Bill  
(Assembly Bill 267 and Senate Bill 183)

WHEREAS, the Merrill Area Public School Board, administrators, educators, staff, parents and community members of the greater Merrill area are united in our effort to provide all children with the highest quality educational opportunities possible; and

WHEREAS, the Governor and members of the Wisconsin Legislature have proposed expanding voucher programs into many more communities, and, have proposed increasing payments to voucher schools; and

WHEREAS, taxpayers deserve to know the cost of expanding the voucher program, just as property tax bills show how much money goes to public schools and technical colleges; and

WHEREAS, voucher schools are not bound by the same instructional standards, open meeting laws, or special education inclusion as public schools; and are not governed by publicly elected boards, and therefore have no public accountability for the use of public tax dollars; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 267 and Senate Bill 183, the "Wisconsin Voucher Taxpayer Transparency Bill", authored by State Rep. Dana Wachs (D-Eau Claire) would require property tax bills to include information from the school district where the property is located regarding the amount of any net reduction in state aid, if any, to the district as a result of pupils enrolled in the statewide voucher program, the Racine voucher program, or the Milwaukee voucher program;

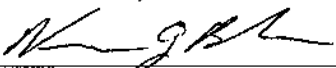
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Merrill Area Public School Board calls on Governor Walker, the Wisconsin State Assembly, and the Wisconsin Senate to support the Wisconsin Voucher Taxpayer Transparency Bill in an effort to be open, honest and transparent with the taxpayers of the greater Merrill area and Wisconsin.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being all of the members of the School Board for the Merrill Area School District, have executed this resolution this 27<sup>th</sup> day of Sept., 2017.

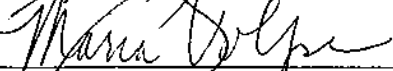
  
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Jen Seliger, President

  
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Eric Beiss, Vice President

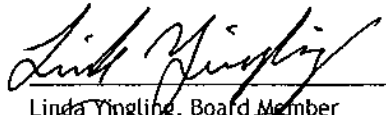
  
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Nubs Ashbeck, Treasurer

  
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Kevin Blake, Clerk

  
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Jeremy Ratliff, Board Member

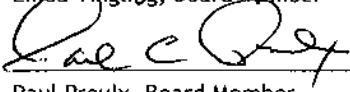
  
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Maria Volpe, Board Member

  
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Don Smith, Board Member



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Linda Yingling, Board Member



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Paul Proulx, Board Member