

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS, INC.

Madison, Wisconsin

January 28, 2020

**REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP ON RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED
BY THE 2020 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY**

WASB Policy & Resolutions Committee

Bill Yingst, Sr., Durand-Arkansas School Board, Chair

Resolutions Adopted (Approved) By Delegates:

Resolution 2020-01: *Quorum for the Purpose of Filling School Board Vacancies*

Create: The WASB supports legislation to clarify that in the event of the resignation and/or removal of multiple board members, a quorum for the specific purpose of filling the vacant board seats (in a district other than MPS) is a majority of the actively serving members. “Actively serving members” includes board members who have been appointed to fill a vacancy and have taken the oath of office.

Resolution 2020-02: *Blue Ribbon Commission on School Funding Recommendations*

Create: The WASB supports the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on School Funding, as published in January 2019, that align with WASB resolutions.

Resolution 2020-03: *English Learner (EL) Services Funding*

Create: The WASB supports increased weighting of English learner (EL) pupils in the general school aids and revenue limit formulas or providing categorical aid to support services for all EL pupils in grades 4K through 12.

Resolution 2020-04: *Equalization Aid Payment Schedule*

Repeal and Recreate existing Resolution 2.20 (d) to read: The WASB supports the payment of equalization aids in four equal installments (25% each) in September, December, March, and June. Phase in the new schedule as follows: Increase the September payment by two percentage points and decrease the June payment by two percentage points each year for five years.

Resolution 2020-05: *Transportation Aid for High Poverty Districts*

Create: The WASB supports the creation of a state categorical aid program, to provide new monies aimed at helping school districts with high concentrations of students from poverty backgrounds increase the attendance and participation rates of students whose families are unable to transport them to and from school or for extracurricular activities.

Resolution 2020-06: *Dyslexia Guidebook*

Create: The WASB supports the development of a guidebook to inform school district policies and practices for providing services to students with dyslexia and related conditions. School board members, parents, teachers, administrators, reading specialists, school social workers and other stakeholders should have input into the development of such a guidebook and should serve as members of any advisory committee established for the purpose of developing such a guidebook.

Resolution 2020-07: *School & School District Report Cards*

Create: The WASB supports legislation to provide that for purposes of measuring a school district's or high school's improvement, the DPI may not include data derived from a public school located in a juvenile detention center, jail, or other court-ordered residential placement that is located within and operated by the school district, if at least 50% of the pupils attending the school are not enrolled for the entire academic year.

Resolution 2020-08: *Social & Emotional Learning*

Create: The WASB supports the creation of a state categorical aid, to provide new monies, to support social and emotional learning for all public school students, grades 4K-12.

Resolution 2020-09: *Mental Health Categorical Aid*

Repeal and recreate existing WASB resolution 6.065 to read: The WASB supports legislation to establish a new categorical aid, to provide new monies, to support school-based mental health related services. The WASB recommends that the state provide a minimum of \$25 per pupil in the first year, \$35 per pupil in the second year and \$50 per pupil in the third year and each year thereafter, with provisions for small districts to receive a minimum amount of aid designed to help them accomplish the purposes listed below. This new resource would enable school districts to provide mental health related services as identified, determined and prioritized at the local level. Services eligible to be funded under this categorical aid may include, but are not be limited to, the following:

- Contracting with mental health service providers;
- Employment of a mental health coordinator;
- Employment of an autism coordinator;
- Employment of a behavioral specialist or interventionist;
- Contracting with outside agencies for mental health screening in grades preK-12;
- Employment of a parent/peer advocate; or
- Training for staff in the areas of trauma sensitive schools, restorative practices, youth mental health first aid, and emotional regulation.

Resolution 2020-11: *Meal Shaming*

Create: The WASB opposes singling out, identifying, stigmatizing or embarrassing school children who have unpaid school meal debts as the situation may be totally out of their control. The WASB also opposes state legislation mandating that schools provide a fully reimbursable meal to any student who requests one, regardless of his or her ability to pay for the meal, unless the state provides funding to meet this mandate. The WASB encourages schools and school districts that participate in federal school meals programs to participate, to the extent they are eligible, in federal programs such as the Community Eligibility Provision that provides additional federal funding so that all students, regardless of family income, may receive school breakfasts and lunches without charge.

Resolution 2020-12: *Social Worker Certification & Licensure*

Create: The WASB supports efforts to increase the supply of school social workers, school counselors and mental health providers throughout the state. The WASB will work with the DPI to address existing obstacles to school social worker licensing with an emphasis on obstacles faced by districts in regions of the state that are located remotely from universities conferring degrees currently recognized by the DPI for licensure.

Resolution 2020-13: *Mandatory Reporting*

Create: The WASB supports ensuring that all teachers and other school employees receive training adequate to enable them: to identify and report reasonably suspicious cases of child abuse, child neglect and human trafficking; and to work effectively with Child Protective Services, law enforcement agencies and other agencies, including the Department of Children and Families, involved in investigating, initiating interventions and providing services to victims of abuse, neglect or human trafficking. The WASB further supports legislation to ensure the DPI provides a rigorous training program adequate to assist teachers and other school employees in properly following state and federal laws in these areas.

Resolution 2020-14: *Whole Grade Sharing Incentive Aid*

Create: The WASB supports legislation to create an aid incentive for school districts that enter into whole grade sharing agreements.

Resolution 2020-15: *Formation of New K-8 and Union High School (UHS) Districts*

Create: The WASB supports legislation to allow two or more existing K-12 districts to jointly create new K-8/union high school (UHS) districts to serve their students.

Resolution 2020-16: *Weighting of Low-Income Pupils*

Amend Resolution 2.20 (q) to read: The WASB supports using student poverty as a factor in the state equalization aid formula and revenue limits. Specifically, the WASB supports increased weighting of pupils from low-income families in the general school aids and revenue limit formulas.

Resolution 2020-17: *Student Equity Statements*

Create: The WASB supports that school boards and districts actively work with partnering organizations and associations which provide the organizational framework for student and school participation in extracurricular, co-curricular and club activities to require their member and/or participating school districts to sign and to commit to enforcing a student equity statement that enables and ensures all students can participate in welcoming, respectful environments where hate speech or other actions motivated by a discriminatory intent are not tolerated and all forms of diversity are actively embraced.

Resolutions NOT Approved

Resolution 2020-10: *Native American Mascots*

Create: The WASB supports legislation requiring school districts to retire Native American mascots (to include names, nicknames, logos & imagery), provided such legislation: a) establishes adequate timelines to allow for the consideration and implementation of other alternatives; b) provides state funding to compensate districts for the costs (e.g., changes to facilities, uniforms, etc.) necessary to ~~retire Native American mascots, logos or imagery~~ make those changes; and c) does not require the retiring of images, statues or other likenesses of historic individual figures after whom a school or community is named.