2023 Resolution #1

WHEREAS, the Columbus Board of Education has the responsibility to ensure the Columbus School District receives the financial resources necessary to empower each of our students to be community, career and college ready; and

WHEREAS, both main sources of funding for that purpose, state general aids and local property taxes, are restricted by state imposed limits first introduced in the 1993-94 school year; and

WHEREAS, those revenue limits were consistently and predictably adjusted for inflation and coupled with other increases to general aids which allowed districts to keep pace with increasing costs; and

WHEREAS, since 2009, revenue limits have not been consistently adjusted to match inflationary cost increases and the financial resources available for school districts have not kept pace with the rapidly rising costs of operating a school district in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the expenditures necessary to ensure administration and staff can effectively serve each of our students in the district increase each year, particularly as academic recovery efforts continue from the pandemic, staff retention is a crucial focus and the support provided for the changing social, emotional and behavioral needs of our students require additional resources to be successful.

THEREFORE, the Columbus Board of Education calls on Governor Evers, the Wisconsin State Senate and Wisconsin State Assembly, to provide predictable, annual increases in state general equalization aids and per-pupil adjustments to revenue limits that at least match inflationary increases in school costs.