

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Resolution

SUPPORTING MAY 1st DAY OF ACTION FOR NC PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- WHEREAS,** Durham educators will join other educators and supporters from school systems across North Carolina to rally in support for public school students on May 1, 2019; and
- WHEREAS,** the first goal is that the General Assembly provide enough School Social Workers, Media Coordinators, School Psychologists, Professional School Counselors, School Nurses, and other health professionals to meet national standards; and
- WHEREAS,** the second goal requested is that the General Assembly provide school districts funds for a \$15 minimum wage for all school personnel, a five percent raise for all school workers, and a five percent cost of living adjustment for retirees; and
- WHEREAS,** the third goal is that the General Assembly expands Medicaid to improve the health of our students and their families; and
- WHEREAS,** the fourth asks lawmakers to reinstate the state retirees' health benefits, which were eliminated by the legislature in 2017; and
- WHEREAS,** lastly, the fifth goal is that the North Carolina General Assembly restore compensation for advanced degrees, which were stripped by the legislature in 2013; and
- WHEREAS,** as a whole, these actions will ensure better support and outcomes for students and their families, and enable local school districts to recruit and retain excellent educators, principals and other personnel; and
- WHEREAS,** each of these goals are consistent with the 2019 legislative agenda of the Durham Public Schools Board of Education and align with the 2018-2023 DPS Strategic Plan; and
- WHEREAS,** North Carolina's Constitution guarantees every child in the state the right to a "sound, basic education" and our state's Supreme Court upheld that constitutional guarantee in Leandro vs. State; and
- WHEREAS,** state funding cuts to Durham Public Schools since the 2008 recession now total more than \$17 million annually; and
- WHEREAS,** the Durham Association of Educators and the Durham community have demonstrated their commitment to work with Durham Public Schools by providing nutritional meals for children on May 1.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we the members of the Durham Board of County Commissioners do hereby call on members of the North Carolina General Assembly, the Governor, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to attend the May 1st rally to hear the concerns of students, families, educators, and local elected leaders; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we also encourage the Durham community to support the North Carolina Association of Educators Day of Action on May 1, 2019.

This 22nd day of April 2019.

Wendy Jacobs, Chair

James Hill, Jr., Vice-Chair

Heidi Carter

Brenda A. Howerton

Ellen Reckhow

