



Louisiana Retired Teachers Association

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Coalition for Louisiana Public Education firmly believes that every child in Louisiana deserves the opportunity for an excellent education; and

Whereas, the Coalition for Louisiana Public Education firmly believes that for Louisiana to invest in its own future, for best results the state must use only proven, effective methods in public education, and must adequately and equitably fund the public school districts to carry out those proven methods; and

Whereas, the Coalition for Louisiana Public Education firmly believes that every public school district in Louisiana deserves equitable and adequate funding from the state, to help provide the education opportunities for these children; and

Whereas, the Coalition for Louisiana Public Education defines equitable and adequate funding for education to **exclude the following discriminatory funding practices**: all unfunded mandates from the state onto public school districts; any stagnation or decrease to the Minimum Foundation Plan (MFP); the repeated freezing of the growth factor in the MFP year after year; the state mandate of unproven methods such as Student-based Budgeting; and the state's inequitable provision of the same level of funding for virtual schools as those schools which have actual physical facilities and staff, and thus carry the burden of far greater expenses, such as food service and transportation; and

Whereas, the Coalition for Louisiana Public Education further believes that educational decision-making and instruction should be child-centered, guided by credentialed professionals whose background, training and experience are in the field of education and inter-related areas; and further

Whereas, the Coalition for Louisiana Public Education firmly believes that locally-elected governance provides the best educational decision-making on matters of curriculum and instruction, which best benefit the parents and business community in its particular area; and

Whereas, the Coalition for Louisiana Public Education also firmly believes that general governance in education policy-setting and decision-making are best carried out at the local level, by locally-elected school board members, in order to maintain transparency and direct accountability to the taxpayers who elected them; and

Whereas, the Coalition for Louisiana Public Education firmly believes that true accountability for all education instruction, decisions and policy-setting should extend to the many partners in education decision-making at all levels, based on appropriate methods of evaluation, and based on relevant criteria, from the classroom teacher and other education professionals, to the principal, the superintendent, local and state school board members, the school districts, the state superintendent, the legislature, and the governor; and

Whereas, the Coalition for Louisiana Public Education firmly believes in working together with other education stakeholders across the state to reach consensus to ensure instruction and funding equity for all districts, in order to propel Louisiana to national pre-eminence in public education;

Now therefore be it resolved that the **Louisiana Retired Teachers Association** does fully support the positions and goals presented here by the **Coalition for Louisiana Public Education** in its endeavors to enhance public education in the state of Louisiana.

And further be it resolved that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Coalition for Louisiana Public Education for their records.



James A. Taylor, Sr., J.D., Ph. D.
President

April 26, 2011
Date