

**FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Fairfield, Ohio**

The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District, County of Butler, Ohio, met in a regular board meeting at 6:30 p.m. on the 12th day of December, 2019, in the Catherine D. Milligan Community Room, 8800 Holden Blvd., Fairfield, Ohio 45014, with the following members present:

Members Present: Mr. Brian Begley
 Mr. Michael Berding
 Mrs. Jerrilynn Gundrum
 Mrs. Carrie O'Neal
 Mrs. Balena Shorter

Mr. Berding moved and Mrs. O'Neal seconded to approve the following resolution:

Resolution Number: 19-122

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE STATE OF OHIO EdCHOICE SCHOLARSHIP (VOUCHER) PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Ohio legislature has recently made amendments which greatly increase the number and availability of vouchers for students to attend private/parochial schools at public tax expense, and

WHEREAS, such vouchers will be available to numerous families and students who have never attended Fairfield or any other public schools and for whom state funding has never been provided to Fairfield or any other public schools, and

WHEREAS, Fairfield's state funding will be unjustly decreased by the amount of the vouchers provided to such families and students who have not and will not attend public schools and others who transfer to private/parochial schools, and

WHEREAS, the estimated loss of revenue to the Fairfield City School District over the next four (4) years is \$14,530,950 which would devastate the District's finances, and

WHEREAS, private/parochial schools accepting students with public tax vouchers would not be required to accept all students but would be permitted to retain their selective admission policies without enforcement of other laws applicable to public schools, and

WHEREAS, private/parochial school students are not subject to the testing standards required of public school students so that the actual performance of private/parochial schools

subsidized with public tax dollars will not be known, relative to equivalent public school evaluation standards, and

WHEREAS, this Board believes that the EdChoice voucher program as it currently exists presents serious constitutional issues regarding the separation of church and state and the funding of religious institutions with public tax dollars, and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio has the constitutional responsibility to secure a thorough and efficient system of common schools, and

WHEREAS, the EdChoice voucher program will have exactly the opposite effect by providing funding to private/parochial schools at the expense and to the detriment of public schools and their students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by this Fairfield City School District Board of Education that this Board reaffirms its commitment to free accessible public schools which are adequately and equitably funded to guarantee a comparable education for ALL children and therefore opposes and respectfully requests the repeal of the ill-conceived EdChoice voucher program of the State of Ohio.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Board opposes any funding programs, vouchers or otherwise, that have the effect of diverting public tax dollars from public schools to private/parochial schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to forward copies of this Resolution to all Ohio state legislators, the Superintendent of Public Instruction and Governor of the State of Ohio.

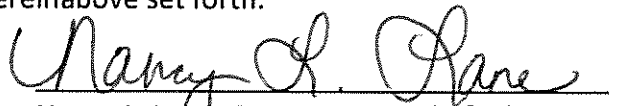
Ayes: Mr. Berding, Mrs. O'Neal, Mr. Begley, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

TREASURER'S CERTIFICATE

The above is a true and correct extract from the minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District, Ohio, held on December 12, 2019, commencing at 6:30 p.m. in the Catherine D. Milligan Community Room, 8800 Holden Blvd., Fairfield, Ohio 45014, showing the adoption of the resolution hereinabove set forth.

Dated: December 12, 2019


Nancy L. Lane, Treasurer Board of Education
Fairfield City School District, Butler County,
Ohio