WHEREAS, Chapter 28A.320 RCW authorizes local school boards to govern their respective districts, including the promotion of effective, efficient, and safe district operations, and RCW 28A.330.100 authorizes local school boards with additional powers, and RCW 28A.150.230 assigns local school boards the responsibility for ensuring quality in the content and extent of its educational program; and

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Washington Governor Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency in all counties of our state under Chapters 38.08, 38.52, and 43.06 RCW, and directed the implementation of the plans and procedures of the state’s Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and on March 13, 2020, Governor Inslee ordered the closure of all public and private K-12 schools in Washington State until April 24, 2020, to contain the spread of COVID-19, and on April 6, 2020, directed that school buildings remain closed from providing traditional, in-person instruction throughout the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, RCW 28A.150.290 authorizes the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to make rules and regulations as necessary to carry out the proper administration of its statutory duties in unforeseen conditions and on June 11, 2020, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) issued official guidance for reopening Washington schools for the 2020-2021 school year, which included sections on health and safety from the Department of Health and the Department of Labor and Industries, specifying employee and student safety requirements for reopening schools during the COVID-19 pandemic and requiring school boards to adopt and submit reopening plans for the 2020-2021 school year; and

WHEREAS, WAC 180-16-195 was amended on July 8, 2020 by the State Board of Education (SBE) to require school districts to submit their reopening plans to OSPI and the SBE electronically at least two weeks prior to the first day of school; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Highline School Board has reviewed and hereby adopts the attached reopening plan for the 2020-2021 school year, which addresses the mandatory health requirements, statutory education requirements, and additional expectations, as identified by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction’s June 11, 2020 official guidance for reopening Washington schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board directs that the plan be posted on the District’s website two weeks prior to the reopening of school. The Board recognizes that the circumstances related to reopening schools safely are mutable, and the reopening plan requires monitoring and possible revision. Therefore, the District Superintendent will monitor the reopening plan throughout the 2020-2021 year, and the District will revise and update the reopening plan as needed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that execution of this Resolution is conclusive evidence of the Board’s approval of this action and of the authority granted herein. The Board warrants that it
has, and at the time of this action had, full power and lawful authority to adopt this instrument. This resolution pertains exclusively to the 2020-2021 school year and sunsets no later than that time.

ADOPTED this 12 day of August, 2020

I, Susan Enfield, Secretary to the Board of Directors of Highline School District No. 401, do certify that the above is a true and accurate copy of Resolution 09-20 for the use and purpose intended.