Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
December 15, 2022	B-1

Title

Resolution Regarding Cherokee County Board of Education's Affirmation, Commitment and Support of Mountain Education Charter High School

Requested Action

School Board Adoption of Resolution Regarding Cherokee County Board of Education's Affirmation, Commitment and Support of Mountain Education Charter High School

Summary Explanation and Background

School Board Member Clark Menard had suggested at the November 17, 2022 School Board meeting that the School Board consider adoption of a resolution supporting its legislative priority relative to supporting legislation aimed at ensuring the viability of Mountain Education Charter High School, which is successfully providing second chance opportunities at a noteworthy high rate for Cherokee County students to earn an accredited hish school diploma in a student-centered, self-paced, evening public high school by creating a State Charter School designation that receives State QBE funding.

Per, Mr. Menard's request the attached resolution has been added to the agenda by the Superintendent who recommends adoption.

Priority Area

Organizational and Operational Effectiveness

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

Resolution

Source of Additional Information

Clark Menard, School Board Member 678.388.7214

A RESOLUTION OF THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION'S
AFFIRMATION, COMMITMENT, AND SUPPORT OF
MOUNTAIN EDUCATION CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the Cherokee County School District (CCSD) and the Board of Education (School Board) are committed to educating the emerging generation through learning environments designed to increase the performance of all students; and

WHEREAS, the School Board believes every student can learn, achieve and thrive; and

WHEREAS, the School Board promotes student achievement through access and opportunity with an emphasis on meaningful accomplishments such as increasing the number of high school students obtaining a high school diploma in the county; and

WHEREAS, the School Board believes meaningful connections we forge with community partners positively influence how we teach, lead and prepare graduates for success in a knowledge-based, technology rich and culturally diverse world; and

WHEREAS, CCSD and Mountain Education Charter High School have partnered to allow for a Cherokee County campus within its North Georgia service area enabling over 400 local students to currently access an alternative educational delivery model through this State Charter school in Cherokee County; and

WHEREAS, Mountain Education Charter High School's mission is to provide a second chance opportunity for students within Cherokee County and across North Georgia to earn an accredited High School Diploma in a student-centered, self-paced, evening public high school; and

WHEREAS, Mountain Education Charter High School provides enhanced services to those students within Cherokee County and across North Georgia including graduation coaches and mentors, support for nightly classes including dinners, development of life action plans and support groups; and

WHEREAS, the School Board and Mountain Education Charter High School agree that all students should have a choice in their education and that multiple paths may be required for a student to reach their goal of graduation; and

WHEREAS, the passage of Senate Bill 153, also known as the "Graduation Opportunities and Advanced Learning Act" was intended to find a fair resolution to funding of certain State-approved Charter High Schools but instead eliminated the ability for Mountain Education Charter High School to remain a State-approved charter school beginning June 2023 within Georgia's current charter school models; and

WHEREAS, both the School Board and Mountain Education Charter High School feel that one proposed solution requiring Mountain Education Charter High School to develop individual charter contracts with each school district in its service area will limit the viability of a continued regional alternative high school program; and

WHEREAS, the School Board has included on its annual legislative partnership priorities an item to encourage the Cherokee County Legislative Delegation to enhance educational and workforce opportunities through creation of a special charter designation for Mountain Education Charter High School; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cherokee County Board of Education is committed to seeking a beneficial resolution within the 2023 General Assembly session for the reauthorization of Mountain Education Charter High School as a State-approved charter school through a special charter designation and modified funding model; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cherokee County Board of Education is committed to working with the appropriate Members of the Georgia General Assembly and Cherokee County Legislative Delegation in order to find and implement support for a resolution that fulfills the State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia's mission to improve public education throughout the state by authorizing high-quality charter schools that provide students with better educational opportunities than they would otherwise receive in traditional district schools.

_____, Chair

Adoption Date: _____