

BEREA BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE FAIR SCHOOL FUNDING PLAN

WHEREAS, the Ohio Constitution guarantees a “thorough and efficient system of common schools throughout the state” (Article VI, Section 2,) and the Ohio Supreme Court has repeatedly ruled that the state’s school funding system must be both adequate and equitable; and

WHEREAS, the Fair School Funding Plan (FSFP) was developed by school funding experts and practitioners, and based on research-driven inputs to ensure all Ohio public school students receive the resources necessary for a high-quality education, regardless of their zip code; and

WHEREAS, the FSFP represents a bipartisan effort to address the longstanding inequities in Ohio’s school funding system by accurately determining the cost of educating a student, utilizing a base cost methodology that reflects actual district needs; and

WHEREAS, the current state biennial budget proposals continue funding the FSFP but fail to update the base cost calculations, relying on **outdated 2022 inputs** that do not reflect current inflationary pressures, rising personnel costs, or evolving student needs; and

WHEREAS, Ohio’s commitment to an equitable funding formula must include periodic updates to cost inputs to ensure districts are receiving an accurate and fair allocation of state resources; and

WHEREAS, any proposal to reduce funding for districts currently receiving funding guarantees would destabilize educational services, harm students, and undermine the intent of the FSFP by shifting financial burdens onto **local taxpayers** or forcing cuts to essential programs; and

WHEREAS, a fully implemented and regularly updated FSFP benefits all Ohio students by ensuring predictability, adequacy, and fairness in school funding allocations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Berea City School District Board of Education:

1. Expresses strong support for the continued implementation and full funding of the Fair School Funding Plan, including the use of updated, research-based cost inputs that reflect current economic conditions and student needs.
2. Rejects any proposals to cut funding from school districts currently receiving funding guarantees, as such actions would create financial instability and negatively impact students and communities.
3. Calls upon the General Assembly and the Governor to uphold their commitment to fair and adequate school funding by ensuring that future biennial budgets continue fully funding the FSFP and updating cost calculations to reflect the actual cost of educating Ohio’s public school students.

4. Encourages fellow school districts, educational organizations, and community stakeholders to advocate for an equitable school funding system that supports all Ohio public school students and does not pit districts against one another in a zero-sum funding model.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to members of the Ohio General Assembly, the Governor of Ohio, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, and other relevant stakeholders to emphasize the need for continued investment in Ohio's students and public schools.

Adopted this 17th of March, 2025, by the Berea City Schools Board of Education

Corinne A. Jarvis

Rick Mack

Ana Chapman

Heather Zinke
