

**Resolution on Increasing Per Pupil Funding and
Fully Funding Public Schools in North Carolina**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Constitution includes an obligation to provide a sound basic education to all school aged children in our state, acknowledging that talent and ingenuity can be found among all our children; and

WHEREAS, public education is the cornerstone for our democracy and economic future; and

WHEREAS, state and federal elected politicians have attacked public education and public school teachers instead of attacking poverty among our public school children; and

WHEREAS, inflation-adjusted per pupil spending is still below pre-recession levels; and

WHEREAS, in terms of per pupil spending, an NEA report ranks North Carolina 46th in the United States in 2014-15, spending \$8,632 per student, compared to \$8,620 per student in 2013-14; and

WHEREAS, in 2008 teacher salaries ranked 25th in the nation, but fell to 46th in 2014-15; and

WHEREAS, that despite research showing cost-effectiveness of Pre-K services, the NC General Assembly has cut funding and reduced the number of state-funded pre-kindergarten seats by 5,400 since 2008 resulting in continued waiting lists; and

WHEREAS, approximately 60 percent of public education funding comes from the State, while the remainder is funded by local and the federal government; and

WHEREAS, as the state has abandoned its commitment to fund our public schools, many local government leaders have shouldered more of the burden by increasing property taxes or cutting important programs or positions;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Transylvania County Board of Education (the “board”) calls for the N.C. General Assembly to fully fund public education in Local Education Agencies to reflect growth and student needs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board calls upon the General Assembly to reinstate K-12 enrollment growth (ADM funding) as part of the continuation budget; and

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED that the board calls upon the legislators of both parties to reject the trend toward shifting education spending to local counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board calls upon the General Assembly to raise additional state revenue in an equitable fashion in order to avoid regressive tax shifts to counties.

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE this the 7th day of March 2016.

Chair, Transylvania Co. Board of Education

Secretary, Transylvania Co. Board of Education