

## FOREST HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Board of Education of the Forest Hills School District, Hamilton County, Ohio met in special session on March 22, 2025 at the Forest Hills School District Central Office Building, 7946 Beechmont Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45255 with the following members present:

Mr. Bob Bibb

Dr. Jason Simmons

Dr. Wendy Strickler

Dr. Strickler moved the adoption of the following resolution:

### 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 designed by a group of superintendents and treasurers led by State Representatives Robert Cupp and Jon Patterson based on research-driven inputs to ensure all Ohio 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 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state biennial budget proposals continue funding the FSFP but fail to update the base cost calculations, relying on outdated 2022 inputs that do not reflect current inflationary pressures, rising personnel costs, or evolving student needs and reduce base cost for 87% of the more than 600 public school districts in the first year and for 83.1% of school districts in the second year; and

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

WHEREAS, the proposed state budget would cut approximately \$2.8 million from Forest Hills School District’s budget over the next five years, which 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 with a guarantee benefits all Ohio students by ensuring predictability, adequacy, and fairness in school funding allocations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Forest Hills 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 and a guarantee that provides a consistent flow of revenue.

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 Ohio 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 FSF including the guarantee and updating cost calculations to reflect the actual cost of educating Ohio's students.

4. Encourages fellow school districts, educational organizations, and community stakeholders to advocate for a fair school funding system that supports all Ohio 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.

Dr. Simmons seconded the motion and the roll being called upon the question of the adoption of the Resolution, the vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Bibb, Dr. Simmons, Dr. Strickler

Nays: None

Adopted this 22nd day of March, 2025.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Bibb, Board President

## **CERTIFICATE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted at a meeting held on the 22nd day of March, 2025, together with a true and correct extract from the minutes of said meeting to the extent pertinent to consideration and adoption of said resolution.

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Alana Cropper, Treasurer