

10-21-17
WALK-ON
RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 14-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE FLORIDA, EXPRESSING ITS SUPPORT OF THE NOVEMBER 4, 2014, BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CAPITAL BOND REFERENDUM FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES OF THE DISTRICT, INCLUDING SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES.

WHEREAS, the School Board of Broward County, Florida ("District") serves more than 260,000 students and 175,00 adult students from 204 countries and speaking 135 different languages; and

WHEREAS, there are 24 public schools within the city limits of the City of Fort Lauderdale serving both residents and non-residents; and

WHEREAS, resident students also attend public schools outside the geographic borders of the City of Fort Lauderdale; and

WHEREAS, the District has invested \$197.2 million in Fort Lauderdale public schools since 2005 for capital projects; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has reduced the millage rate that local school districts are permitted to levy from 2.0 mills to 1.5 mills for school construction, renovation and maintenance of school facilities; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the millage rate reduction and property value declines in recent years the District has had to eliminate more than \$1.8 billion in capital projects and programs; and

WHEREAS, 40% of the District's school buildings are over 25 years old; and

WHEREAS, the District's student to computer ratio is 5 to 1 with 62 other school districts across the state experiencing better ratios; and

WHEREAS, the District has worked to reduce expenses and has increased operational efficiencies, re-investing over \$35 million into the classroom; and

WHEREAS, the District was recognized this summer by the State of Florida for having the lowest administrative cost out of all Florida school districts; and

WHEREAS, the District reports that a comprehensive, data-driven Needs Assessment conducted Districtwide has identified more than \$3 billion dollars in capital needs; and

WHEREAS, schools across the District are in need of increased school security through security systems and single point of entry; and

WHEREAS, schools across the District are in need of technology improvements to prepare our students for the jobs of tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, schools across the District are in need of structural renovations to address aging schools and fix antiquated and inefficient air conditioning and climate control systems; and

WHEREAS, the District is asking county voters to invest in schools by approving issuance of an \$800 million General Obligation Bond for improvements to public school facilities, including safety enhancements and technology upgrades; and

WHEREAS, the local schools in the City of Fort Lauderdale are projected to receive \$80.9 million for improvements to public school facilities, including safety enhancements and technology upgrades if the Broward County Public School Capital Bond Referendum passes on the November 4, 2014, ballot; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission determines that supporting Broward County Public Schools Capital Bond Referendum is in the best interests of the citizens of Fort Lauderdale,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA.

Section 1. The City of Fort Lauderdale hereby expresses its support for the November 4, 2014, Broward County Public Schools \$800 million capital bond referendum.

Section 2. The City Clerk is hereby directed to send a certified copy of this Resolution to the School Board of Broward County, Florida.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this the ____ day of _____, 2014.

Mayor
JOHN P. "JACK" SEILER

ATTEST:

City Clerk
JONDA K. JOSEPH