

May 6, 2015  
Encl. 5-21



### WPSBA Resolution Template: 2015 APPR Plan Implementation

Whereas the Board of Education of the \_\_\_\_\_ School District has long supported high standards and accountability for our students and staff;

Whereas our district benefits from local control, opposes legislative remedies that assume that one size fits all, and has serious concerns about the new APPR plan;

Whereas the newly enacted State budget requires the Commissioner of Education to adopt regulations by June 30th, 2015, thereby creating a truncated timeline, and assuring ongoing, piecemeal changes to APPR without adequate public consideration;

Whereas the State budget legislation threatens that state aid will be withheld unless local contract negotiations conclude by September 1 of this and each subsequent year – another virtually impossible deadline given the obligations of collective bargaining;

Whereas the parent opt-out movement has demonstrated that parents do not favor the proposed nexus of high stakes assessment and teacher evaluation and the labeling of teachers or children based on these assessments, and has further exposed issues related to the reliability, transparency and length of the tests;

Whereas it is in the best interest of the students, staff and public education in the state and in this school district that we develop and implement an appropriate APPR evaluation system, rather than the recently enacted system which relies on an untested, opaque value-added model (VAM), focuses on only three snapshots in time (assessment and 2 evaluations) out of an entire school year, uses a basic scoring grid rather than a matrix based on multiple measures, and relies on a SLO model for the majority of teachers; and

Whereas the current efforts in Congress to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) recognize the error of mandating that test scores be linked to teacher and administrator evaluations; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Board of Education of the \_\_\_\_\_ School District:

1. requests that the Board of Regents convene a task force of qualified practitioners and independent experts to review the reliability, transparency, developmental appropriateness, and length of the state tests and to assure the validity of linking the tests to the proposed evaluation system,
2. requests that the Board of Regents, Commissioner of Education and State legislators allow that draft regulations be filed by the Commissioner on June 30, 2015, followed by a 90 day comment period and that the deadline for school district submission of modified APPR plans be moved to September 1, 2016, and
3. requests that the Board of Regents, Commissioner of Education and State legislators perform a detailed review of the evaluation proposal, gather input from qualified practitioners and independent experts, and reject the elements of the Cuomo Education Reform Agenda which place undue reliance on state tests and constitute inappropriate reforms to APPR. Our communities, teachers and students deserve nothing less.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_