RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE LEWISVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT REGARDING SCHOOL FUNDING

WHEREAS, the State of Texas has a historic \$33B surplus; and

WHEREAS, the State of Texas is required by the Texas Constitution to make suitable provision for an efficient system of free and public schools; and

WHEREAS, Texas public school districts accept every student and are mandated to follow state academic standards plus financial accountability; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature has not made any adjustments to the Basic Allotment since 2019; and

WHEREAS, local school districts are facing historic levels of inflation since the COVID-19 pandemic and would need a \$900 increase in the Basic Allotment to address inflationary costs; and

WHEREAS, local school districts are facing a statewide and nationwide teacher shortage requiring competitive compensation for teachers; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 3 passed during the 88th legislative session requires the addition of armed personnel for all campuses without the sufficient funding necessary for local school districts to implement the provisions of this bill; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Commission on Special Education indicated that special education is underfunded by \$1.8B in the state of Texas while the population of students served in Special Education is increasing; and

WHEREAS, providing a voucher to families for Special Education services does not begin to address the reality that Texas school districts have never been fully funded to implement the requirements of IDEA; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 1416 passed during the 88th legislative session is an unfunded mandate and federal ESSER dollars utilized to support high quality tutoring programs for students are ending; and

WHEREAS, the State of Texas has a funding gap for public education ranking 42nd out of 50 states on public education funding and is rated an "F" below the national average of a "C" on K-12 spending; and

WHEREAS, the average private school tuition in Texas is \$10,585 per year and providing taxpayer dollars to students to attend private schools will not help students who do not have

transportation and cannot make up the difference between the education savings account and the private school tuition; and

WHEREAS, per pupil spending in Texas should not be referred to with I&S funding included because those funds are bond funds approved by local voters and cannot be used to address everyday operating expenses that are impacted by inflation; and

WHEREAS, the Lewisville Independent School District is facing a \$48M deficit to sustain competitive pay increases for staff and maintain student instructional programs of choice, extracurriculars;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

 Should a Legislative Special Session related to Educational Choice and Educational Savings Accounts/Vouchers be called the Lewisville ISD Board of Trustees call on the legislature to support an increase to the Basic Allotment and address the unfunded mandates placed on Texas public schools, therefore rejecting diversion of taxpayer dollars to private entities who are not required to comply with Texas Education Code ensuring transparency and accountability.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE LEWISVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, this ______th day of September, 2023.

Jenny Proznik

HSD Board of Trustees, President HD 106, SD 30

Katherine Sells

LISD Board of Trustees, Secretary

HD 65, SD 12

Sheila P. Taylor

LISD Board of Trustees, Place 3

HD 57, SD 12

Dr. Staci Barker

LISD Board of Trustees, Place 7

HD 63, SD 12

Dr. Buddy Bønner

LISD Board of Trustees, Vice President

HD 63, SD 12

Allson Lassahr

LISD Board of Trustees, Place 2

HD 57, SD 12

Michelle Alkhati

LISD Board of Trustees, Place 6

HD 65, SD 12