A Resolution in Support of Parental Rights

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_[[1]](#footnote-1) Public Schools

A resolution to affirm the commitment of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School Board to the fundamental rights of parents to direct the education of their children.

WHEREAS, parents are in the best position to know their own child’s needs and circumstances, and therefore, should maintain authority over all decisions that could impact the health and well-being of their children; and

WHEREAS, the fundamental right of parents over the upbringing of their children has been unequivocally established in the United States;[[2]](#footnote-2) and

WHEREAS, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School Board recognizes Fla. Stat. §§ 1014.01 — 1014.06 entitled the “Parents’ Bill of Rights” which emphatically states in § 1014.02 that “[t]he Legislature finds that it is a fundamental right of parents to direct the upbringing, education, and care of their minor children. The Legislature further finds that important information relating to a minor child should not be withheld, either inadvertently or purposefully, from his or her parent, including information relating to the minor child’s health, well-being, and education, while the minor child is in the custody of the school district.”, and further states in § 1014.03 that “[t]he state, any of its political subdivisions, any other governmental entity, or any other institution may not infringe on the fundamental rights of a parent to direct the upbringing, education, health care, and mental health of his or her minor child without demonstrating that such action is reasonable and necessary to achieve a compelling state interest and that such action is narrowly tailored and is not otherwise served by a less restrictive means.”; and

WHEREAS, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School Board recognizes its duty under Fla. Stat. § 1001.42(8)(c) to “adopt procedures for notifying a student’s parent if there is a change in the student’s services or monitoring related to the student’s mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being and the school’s ability to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for the student[]” in order to “reinforce the fundamental right of parents to make decisions regarding the upbringing and control of their children” as described in Fla. Stat. § 1001.42(8)(c)(1); and

WHEREAS, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School Board believes that all academic success begins by embracing these fundamental parental rights in our educational institutions; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that parents’ voices are respected and incorporated into the development of academic curricula to ensure that their children are receiving an appropriate education; and

WHEREAS, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School Board believes that education must focus on academic subjects, and, without exception, should not include personal bias, personal political opinion, or indoctrination; and

WHEREAS, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School Board believes that any parent has the right to see and evaluate all surveys, data collection, and psychological profiling before they are administered to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ students and that parents have the right to ‘opt out’ of any or all such testing, survey participation, and/or data collection, and that Fla. Stat. §§ 1014.01 — 1014.06 and Fla. Stat. §1003.42(5) establish numerous rights for parents in this regard; and[[3]](#footnote-3)

WHEREAS, as a governmental entity in the State of Florida, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School Board must adhere to Florida law, including Fla. Stat. §§ 1014.01 — 1014.06, § 1003.42(5), and § 1001.42(8)(c) in all of its practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School Board affirms our commitment to the fundamental rights of parents to direct the education of their children, including the right to play a central role in what it is their children are learning; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School Board, Administration, and employees will uphold the traditional partnership between teachers, students, and parents by directly communicating with and involving parents in the education of their children.

1. Insert name of City/County School Board, here and all blanks following. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *See, e.g., Meyer v. Nebraska,* 262 U.S. 390 (1923); *Pierce v. Society of Sisters,* 268 U.S. 510 (1925); *Wisconsin v. Yoder*, 406 U.S. 205 (1972); *Parham v. J.R.,* 442 U.S. 584 (1979);and *Troxel v. Granville,* 530 U.S. 57 (2000). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Note that this paragraph may need to be re-worded to account for any additional state laws regarding curriculum opt-out. Recommend talking to school district counsel to determine best wording. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)