**A RESOLUTION BEFORE THE
BRUNSWICK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
CALLING FOR A RECOMMITMENT TO
QUALITY PUBLIC EDUCATION IN NORTH CAROLINA**

Whereas, North Carolina has a constitutional mandate to provide a sound basic education that is essential for achieving an informed community of citizens and a productive workforce; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina’s per pupil spending for K-12 education has fallen from 25th to 46th in the nation for 2014-2015, and North Carolina is a state where a majority of K-12 funding comes from the State, as State funding decreases Local Education Agencies (LEAs) are forced to seek a greater share of funding from their local county in order to maintain the quality of their programs leading to significant inequities between county LEAs; and

whereas, according to the National Education Association, North Carolina teacher pay has fallen to 42nd in the nation for 2015 – 2016 and is less than the teacher pay in surrounding states compromising both recruitment and retention of the best qualified and most experienced teachers; and

whereas, according to the University of North Carolina System, there has been a 28% decline in enrollment in teacher preparation programs in the UNC system from 2010 to 2014 creating a critical teacher shortage; and

WHEREAS, the current A-F grading system inadequately accounts for annual student growth and puts too much significance on grade scores and fails to acknowledge the hard work and growth of students and the hard work of their teachers, and

whereas, the school calendar for 2016 – 2017 does not provide LEAs the flexibility to meet local needs including time for quality teacher professional development, therefore; be it

RESOLVED, that the Brunswick County Board of Education calls for the North Carolina General Assembly to fully fund K-12 public education and reject the trend toward shifting education spending to local counties; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Brunswick County Board of Education calls upon the General Assembly to develop and implement a plan to raise teacher pay so as to make North Carolina competitive with surrounding states; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Brunswick County Board of Education calls upon the General Assembly to pass House Bill 803, an act to increase the weight of school growth to 80% in the calculation of school performance scores.

APPROVED on the fifth day of April, 2016.

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Catherine Cooke, Board Member Charles Miller, Board Member

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John W. Thompson, Board Member Leslie K. Tubb, Superintendent