

RESOLUTION NO 21-09 IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION EE

WHEREAS, the Lake County School District Board of Education believes that every student should have the opportunity to reach their full potential and to participate meaningfully in the civic and economic life of the community, regardless of their zip code or learning needs; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that quality public education develops a competitive workforce that will drive a vibrant Colorado economy for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, education funding in this state has not recovered from the Great Recession and in the 2020-21 school year alone, Colorado public schools were underfunded by \$1.2 billion; and

WHEREAS, the loss of funding to Colorado public schools has been over \$9.3 billion since 2009, which could have been used toward preventing teacher salaries from becoming the least competitive in the nation; addressing the growing mental health needs of students, inequities, and barriers, which prevent students educational opportunities; and being better equipped to react to the largest disruption of the education system in history due to the current global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the loss of state funding to the Lake County School District is 1.4 million in the current school year and has been over 21.1 million since 2009; and

WHEREAS, Colorado does not currently tax vape products despite the fact that the state has one of the highest teen vaping rates in the country at 29 percent; and

WHEREAS, if passed, Proposition EE will provide \$2 billion over ten years to a universal preschool program for all Colorado four-year-olds. Funded by taxes on tobacco and vape products, the measure also includes \$110 million for tobacco-vape cessation and public health programs, \$375 million for public schools (including \$90 million for rural schools) between 2020 and 2023, and \$35 million in critical support for affordable housing and eviction assistance; and

WHEREAS, state share of funding to Colorado school districts is \$1.2 billion below its commitment to provide state aid to fund Colorado schools and 1.4 million below its commitment to provide state aid to Lake County School District; and

WHEREAS, the Board declares that Proposition EE is a matter of official concern.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lake County School District Board of Education officially declares its support for Proposition EE as it will provide additional funding for health and education programs.

The Board authorizes the expenditure of District funds to distribute a factual summary regarding Proposition EE, in accordance with the Fair Campaign Practices Act, C.R.S. 1-45-117.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 16th day of October, 2020.

President, on behalf of

Date

the Lake County School District Board of Education