

**RESOLUTION
OF THE WINSTON-SALEM/FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
URGING THE STATE TO FULFILL ITS CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY AND IMPLEMENT
THE LEANDRO PLAN**

WHEREAS, approximately twenty-five years ago, the North Carolina Supreme Court held that the North Carolina Constitution guaranteed every child an opportunity for access to a sound basic education;

WHEREAS, the opportunity for access to a sound basic education represents the “floor” of educational opportunities that must be afforded to all students;

WHEREAS, the constitutional obligation to provide access to a sound basic education includes provisions for ensuring competent, well-trained teachers in every classroom, Principals who are equipped with resources to recruit and retain competent, well-trained teachers, and adequate resources to support effective instruction for all students;

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Constitution and state law places the responsibility of funding and supporting public schools of the State of North Carolina;

WHEREAS, the Courts have held that the State has not met its constitutional obligations to provide an opportunity for access to a sound basic education for the students of the North Carolina public schools;

WHEREAS, providing adequate educational opportunities that enable all students to reach their full potential cannot be achieved without sufficient educational funding;

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Court approved an eight-year comprehensive remedial plan (“Leandro Plan”) detailing the specific steps that State leaders must take to remedy the ongoing constitutional violations in our public school system;

WHEREAS, the Leandro Plan represents the minimum that the State must do to meet its constitutional obligations to properly fund and support public schools;

WHEREAS, State leaders must prioritize the allocation of funds and resources on an annual basis to ensure full compliance with the state-ordered remedial plan by 2028; and

WHEREAS, school district leaders, including school board members, stand ready to receive and direct additional State resources to schools and students with the greatest needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Board of Education requests that the North Carolina General Assembly prioritize the full implementation of the Leandro Plan, including the enactment of necessary policy and funding reforms, to ensure that all North Carolina students have access to a sound basic education by the 2028 school year.

Adopted by the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Board of Education this the ____ day of _____ in the year 2022.

By: _____
Deanna Kaplan, Chairperson

Attest: _____
Tricia McManus, Superintendent

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