RESOLUTION ON ERASING THE NEGATIVE FACTOR

WHEREAS, when Colorado voters passed Amendment 23 in 2000, the constitutional provision was designed to help Colorado’s public school funding catch up to the national average and to keep it at that level. In contravention of this expressed will of the people, the legislature’s invention of the negative factor leaves Colorado 42nd, more than $2,500, below the national average in per pupil funding.

WHEREAS, without the negative factor, the School Finance Act formula would have provided the Poudre School District with approximately $18 million in the 2010-11 school year, $24 million in the 2011-2012 school year, $31 million in the 2012-2013 school year and $31 million in the 2013-14 school year, for a cumulative total loss in excess of $100 million since implementation of the negative factor.

WHEREAS, in the 2013-14 fiscal year alone, the negative factor extracted more than $1 billion from the State’s support for k-12 public education.

WHEREAS, even as the legislature continues to reduce school funding, the legislature has passed multiple significant reform efforts, including but not limited to the Preschool to Postsecondary Education Alignment Act (CAP4K) (Senate Bill 08-212), the Education Accountability Act of 2009 (Senate Bill 09-163), the Educator Effectiveness Law (Senate Bill 10-191), and the Colorado READ Act (House Bill 12-1238), without adequate revenue support.

These laws impose additional unfunded obligations on school districts already burdened by reduced funding to implement the existing education reforms.

WHEREAS, state revenues are increasing and the legislature has discussed paying off the state payday holiday and replenishing cash funds, the legislature must make it a priority to return to a sensible and constitutional system of school finance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Poudre School Board calls upon the Colorado Legislature to buy down the negative factor in K-12 education funding, starting this year, over a 5 year period to restore much needed education funding for our students.

Dated this 25th day of March, 2014.

POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1

ATTEST:

By: __________________________

President, Board of Education

Signature

Secretary, Board of Education