

TODAY'S CHILD... TOMORROW'S HOPE

MEIGS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. Box 1039 • 345 Main Street North • Decatur, Tennessee 37322 • Telephone (423) 334-5793 • Fax (423) 334-1462

R. CLINTON BAKER, DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF MEIGS COUNTY, TENNESSEE
IN OPPOSITION TO THE EDUCATION
FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP ACT IN
TENNESSEE

WHEREAS, the Meigs County Board of Education is committed to quality education for all students within our district; and

WHEREAS, there is pending legislation before the Tennessee General Assembly that would expand a voucher or scholarship program allowing students and families to use public education funds to pay for private and home school tuitions; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of Tennessee requires that the Tennessee General Assembly "provide for the maintenance, support and eligibility standards of a system of free public schools", with no mention of the maintenance and support of private schools or home schools; and

WHEREAS, the Meigs County Board of Education recognizes the importance of maintaining accountability in the allocation of public funds and believes that public dollars should be used only for the support and improvement of public education; and

MEIGS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mrs. Amy Swanks • Mrs. Julie Boyd • Mr. Ruben "Mike" McKenzie • Mr. Andy Andrews • Mrs. Amber Ammons

STAFF

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Carmen Choat, Assistant Director, College & Career Access, Grades 9-12 Supervisor, CTE Director Tad Roberts, Safety & Social Services, Court Liaison, DHA, LSSW
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Vivian Graves, Federal Programs, Bookkeeper, Payroll, Secretary Robin Meadows, Board Secretary, SNS Beth Miller, Student Data

WHEREAS, vouchers or scholarships channel tax dollars into private or home schools that do not face state-approved academic standards, that do not make budgets public, do not adhere to open meetings and record laws, do not publicly report student achievement, and do not face the public accountability requirements contained in state and federal law, including special education and English as a second language; and

WHEREAS, Meigs County Schools educates and serves every eligible student in our community who wishes to enroll; and

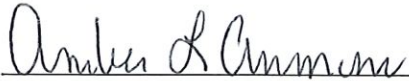
WHEREAS, all educational institutions receiving public funds should have the same accountability and performance requirements so that parents and the public may better understand the use of those public funds; and

WHEREAS, school choice already exists via district transfers, home schools, virtual schools and private schools; and

WHEREAS, vouchers have not been successful at improving student achievement or closing the achievement gap, with credible research finding little or no difference in voucher and public school students' academic performance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Meigs County Board of Education strongly urges the Tennessee General Assembly to reject any legislation or other similar effort that would divert public tax-payer dollars away from public tax-payer schools.

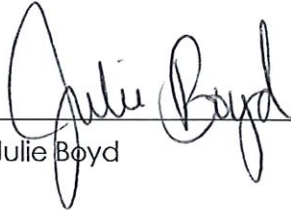
Adopted the 25th day of January 2024, by the Meigs County Board of Education.



Amber Ammons



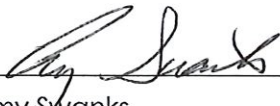
Andy Andrews



Julie Boyd



Mike McKenzie



Amy Swanks