**Millington Municipal Schools Board of Education**

**Resolution 2024-10**

**A JOINT RESOLUTION BETWEEN MILLINGTON MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS AND**

**THE CITY OF MILLINGTON BOARD, MAYOR, AND ALDERMEN**

**OPPOSING THE EDUCATION FREEDOM ACT**

WHEREAS, Article XI, Section 12 of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee, requires that the General Assembly “shall provide for the maintenance, support and eligibility standards of a system of free public schools;” and

 WHEREAS, public schools that provide a free and appropriate education for all, including students with disabilities, require all available state funding in order to continue to improve without necessitating an increased burden on local taxpayers or reducing services for students; and

 WHEREAS, vouchers often divert public funds from the many who attend public schools to supplement those families who have already chosen a different option for the education of their children; and

 WHEREAS the City of Millington enthusiastically supports the mission, vision, beliefs, and goals of the Millington Municipal Schools system and believes public funds should be directed to public schools for the betterment of the student population and community overall; and

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

 WHEREAS, Millington Municipal Schools is fully transparent to parents and the public as the district adheres to open record requests and state-mandated academic and financial standards; and

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

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

 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Millington Municipal Schools Board of Education and City of Millington Board of Mayor and Aldermen are united in strongly urging the Tennessee General Assembly to reject the Education Freedom Scholarship Act or similar voucher initiatives that would divert public dollars away from public schools.

 Adopted this 5th day of December 2023

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Barbara Halliburton, CHAIRMAN Terry Jones, MAYOR

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Chris Denson, VICE CHAIRMAN Mike Caruthers, VICE MAYOR

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Cody Childress, BOARD MEMBER Bethany Huffman, ALDERWOMAN

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Debby Clifton, BOARD MEMBER Al Bell, ALDERMAN

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Dr. Amanda Compton, BOARD MEMBER Chris Ford, ALDERMAN

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Brian McGovern, BOARD MEMBER Larry Dagen, ALDERMAN

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Teresa Cook, BOARD MEMBER Rev. Thomas McGhee, ALDERMAN

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James E. Griffin, SUPERINTENDENT Don Lowry, ALDEDRMAN

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Debra Owen, BOARD ATTORNEY

MILLINGTON MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS

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Gerald D. Lawson, Jr. BOARD ATTORNEY

CITY OF MILLINGTON