

RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1  
BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF Pottsgrove SCHOOL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, school districts in the Commonwealth have continued to make steady gains in academic achievement and create innovative and effective programs and curricula for all public school students and Pennsylvania is the only state in the nation to have increased academic achievement in every subject, at all tested grade levels and for all ethnic, racial and economic subgroups of students from 2002 through 2008; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of a tuition voucher program, over-expansion of any existing tax credit program or incentivizing a student's transfer out of the public education system in any way takes financial resources away from traditional public schools and diminishes the great strides that have been made in those schools and increases the burden on property taxpayers and their resident school districts working toward greater academic successes; and

WHEREAS, unlike nonpublic and private schools, public school districts in the Commonwealth accept and educate children regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religion or academic talents, as opposed to those institutions that are able to reject applicants based on low academic performance, discipline issues or any number of other factors; and

WHEREAS, unlike nonpublic and private schools, public schools in the Commonwealth are held to strict accountability standards in an effort to measure student achievement and academic progress, unlike private and parochial schools which are not required to give state assessments or publish student achievement data; and

WHEREAS, there is no consistent evidence to demonstrate that students who utilize vouchers make any better academic progress in nonpublic or private schools than they did prior to transferring; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pottsgrove School District opposes Senate Bill 1 and any other legislation or any effort by the General Assembly to implement a tuition voucher program in the Commonwealth or any other program that would have an effect similar to that of a tuition voucher program, and encourages its elected officials to oppose the same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Pottsgrove School District directs its Board President to take immediate action to alert its district's state legislators about the need to oppose Senate Bill 1 and the negative consequences on the school district and the public education system at large and to provide a copy of this resolution to them.

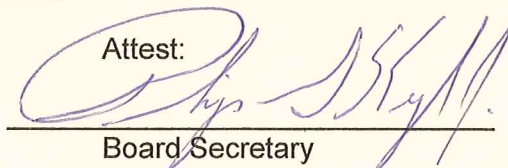
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Pottsgrove School District will encourage others, including parents, students and district taxpayers, to contact the Pennsylvania General Assembly to convey the importance of supporting public education in the Commonwealth.

Adopted this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2011.

Signed,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
School Board President

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary

(seal)