

## **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ARAPAHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT SIX**

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado Constitution mandates:

1. That the general assembly shall establish and maintain a thorough and uniform system of free public schools within the state, and that the general supervision of the public schools shall be vested in a state board of education; and
2. That the general assembly shall provide for the organization of school districts to be governed by locally elected boards of education that are vested with the control of instruction in the public schools of their respective districts; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board of Education is authorized and charged by law with the responsibility to provide an educational program that meets the high expectations of the students, parents, and taxpayers within the School District; and

**WHEREAS**, the general assembly has enacted legislation establishing a system of educational accountability based upon goals, objectives, content standards, standardized testing, assessment, school accreditation, and school accountability, which system has also been incorporated into the federal No Child Left Behind Act; and

**WHEREAS**, this system has imposed increased expectations and obligations upon local school districts, which become progressively more demanding standards, all under threat of state and federal sanctions, up to and including privatization of local schools; and

**WHEREAS**, neither the State of Colorado nor the federal government has provided adequate funding to permit local boards of education to meet the constitutional mandate to control instruction in their schools, the legislative mandate to achieve certain standards of student performance, and the expectations of the communities which they serve; and

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado public school finance system is not designed to assure the level of funding necessary to provide the programs and services guaranteed by the Colorado Constitution and to meet the academic standards to which all school districts and their students are held accountable; and

**WHEREAS**, the general assembly has failed to fund categorical and other programs intended to provide badly needed support for at risk student populations, low income families, second language learners, and special education students, all of which has particularly impacted school districts, parents, and students in the San Luis Valley; and

**WHEREAS**, the general assembly has failed to demonstrate the commitment or ability to provide for and fund an adequate and equitable system of public education; and

**WHEREAS**, the school districts and their boards of education have special constitutional and statutory interests that are substantially independent of the state board of education, the general assembly, and the State of Colorado; and

**WHEREAS**, the CASB and CASE governing boards have strongly endorsed the pending school finance adequacy litigation;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education endorses and supports the pending litigation, referred to as *Lobato, et al. v. State of Colorado, et al.*, on behalf of parents, students, boards of education, and school districts in the State of Colorado to challenge the constitutionality of the Colorado public school finance system.

Approved this 12th day of November, 2009

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President, Board of Education

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary