

RESOLUTION NO. 18-04-015

SPONSORED BY COMMISSIONERS DODD CROWE, BRAD BOWERS, GRADY CASKEY, MIKE AKARD, SHAWN CARTER, JAMIE DALY, TOM STINNETT, AND RON FRENCH

A RESOLUTION TO APPEAL TO THE STATE OF TENNESSEE TO FOLLOW THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S LEAD TO CEASE MANDATING BURDENSOME AND UNNECESSARY REGULATIONS ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

- WHEREAS,** the Federal Government replaced the Federal law known as *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB) with the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA); and
- WHEREAS,** the State of Tennessee continues to impose rules and regulations that present a burden to local school districts, thus hindering the ability of local governments and school districts to adequately serve the needs of their students and stakeholders, without regard to the costs of mandates; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE) has adopted assessments, comprising the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP), that far exceed the requirements of ESSA; and
- WHEREAS,** the State of Tennessee needlessly promulgates excessive regulations on local school districts while simultaneously granting exceptions to competitive private groups; and
- WHEREAS,** the large number of state assessments require an inordinate commitment of time and resources, significantly reducing the time available for teaching and learning; and
- WHEREAS,** the legislation and implementation of the Pre-K Quality Act (T.C.A. §§ 49-6-103 – 49-6-110) and its requirement of a student growth portfolio assessment has caused undue burden and confusion among early childhood teachers, and the requirement of each LEA to provide a quota of portfolio reviewers without regard to or provision for compensation is an non-funded mandate; and
- WHEREAS,** the Blount County Board of Education and Blount County Commission recommend that the TDOE, maintaining the requirements of ESSA, assess students in reading/language arts and math annually in grades 3-10, and in science and social studies once in each of the following grade spans: 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12; and
- WHEREAS,** the Blount County Board of Education and Blount County Commission recommend that the state significantly increase funding to allow for areas of urgent need—positions for school counselors, RT1² instructors, school nurses, and school security enhancements; and
- WHEREAS,** the core tenet of local government is direct interaction with the governed, the return of local control is more efficient and effective.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Blount County Board of Education and the Blount County Board of Commissioners to appeal to the State of Tennessee's good judgment and follow our Federal Government's lead to cease mandating burdensome and unnecessary regulations on local governments and school districts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State of Tennessee should allow local government and boards of education to execute their duties with minimal state bureaucratic intervention.

Duly authorized and approved the 19th day of April, 2018.

CERTIFICATION OF ACTION:

ATTEST:

Commission Chairman

County Clerk

Approved: _____

Vetoed: _____

County Mayor

Date