

**JOINT RESOLUTION BETWEEN  
THE FORT WAYNE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION  
AND  
THE FORT WAYNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION  
IN OPPOSITION TO HB 1005, SB 412 AND SB 413**

WHEREAS, the Indiana General Assembly during its 2021 legislative session is considering HB 1005, SB 412, and SB 413, bills that establish Education Savings (or Scholarship) Accounts (ESAs) and dramatically increase funding for school choice scholarships; and

WHEREAS, the boundaries of the Fort Wayne Community School Corporation have a disproportionately high number of private schools compared to the broader State, and the aforementioned parties (“Parties”) believe that such legislation will divert much needed resources from students in our schools; and

WHEREAS, there is no urgency to pass this measure during a pandemic that is already imposing severe financial constraints on public schools, as parents in Indiana already have an array of state-funded options including high quality public schools, choice scholarships, SGO tax credits, a tax deduction for private school and home school education expenses, charter schools, innovation schools and virtual schools; and

WHEREAS, continued expansion of vouchers has negatively affected public school students and their programs; and

WHEREAS, voucher funding impairs Indiana’s constitutional obligation to fund a uniform system of schools wherein tuition shall be without charge; and

WHEREAS, the Parties believe that this type of legislation does not give real choice to families as private and religious schools can discriminate in whom they educate; and

WHEREAS, this legislation would direct resources to nonpublic schools that are not accountable to taxpayers for the expenditures they make with public funds, not audited by the State Board of Accounts, do not publish annual financial or performance reports, are largely exempt from an extraordinary array of federal and state mandates, regulations and reporting requirements that are imposed on public schools, do not receive federal accountability ratings and are not even required to employ licensed teachers.

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties strongly oppose the aforementioned proposed legislation and urge legislators to oppose it, and any other legislation that directs funding away from Indiana public schools.

FORT WAYNE EDUCATION  
ASSOCIATION



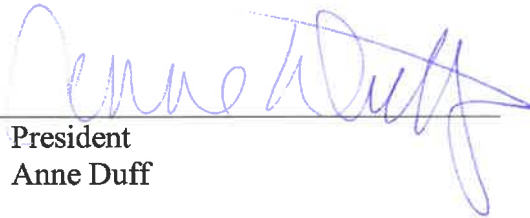
President  
Sandra Vohs

INDIANA STATE TEACHERS  
ASSOCIATION



Uniserv Director Area 08  
Steven Brace

FORT WAYNE COMMUNITY  
SCHOOL CORPORATION



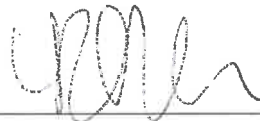
President  
Anne Duff



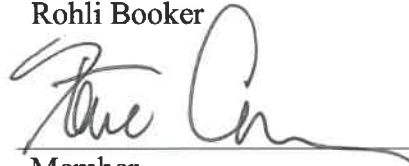
Vice President  
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ABSENT

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Rohli Booker



Member  
Stephen Corona



Member  
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Member  
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