

Glassboro Public Schools

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Mark J. Silverstein, MBA, Ed.D, Superintendent of Schools

October 24, 2014

Governor Chris Christie
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Christie:

Attached is a Resolution approved by the Glassboro Board of Education on November 20, 2013 in support of the legislation that amends the provision of the School Choice Act to remove the provisions limiting the growth of Choice Schools in upcoming school years.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Mark J. Silverstein", written over a horizontal line.

Mark J. Silverstein, MBA, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

MJS/b

Attachment

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:36B-14, et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:12-1, et seq., (hereinafter the "School Choice Act") authorizes School Districts to act as "Choice Schools" to accept and educate students from different School Districts that are known as "Sending Districts;" and

WHEREAS, the School Choice Act was enacted to increase options and flexibility for parents and students in selecting a school that best meets the needs of each student, thereby improving educational opportunities for New Jersey citizens, and

WHEREAS, the School Choice Act has increased the degree to which the education system is responsive to parents and students, effected systemic improvements such as enhancing academic achievement and improving efficiency through a voluntary redistribution of students from overcrowded to under-enrolled school districts, and has improved the quality of public school education in New Jersey by creating a healthy competition among school districts, and

WHEREAS, the School Choice Act was recently amended by the New Jersey Department of Education (hereinafter "NJDOE") to limit the growth of Choice Schools to five (5) percent for the 2014-2015 school year; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOE's action will have a deleterious impact upon the Choice Schools and will also undermine the Legislative intent of the School Choice Act; and

WHEREAS, the Delegate Assembly is the official policy-making body of the New Jersey School Boards Association ("NJSBA"); and

WHEREAS, education-related policies resulting from prior Delegate Assembly and Board of Director's actions are contained in the NJSBA's Manual of Positions and Policies on Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Glassboro Board of Education proposes the following action be taken by the Delegate Assembly:

The NJSBA believes that the New Jersey Department of Education's limit on the growth of Choice Schools undermines the intent and purpose of the School Choice Act.

The NJSBA supports a policy which expands the Choice Schools' ability to accept students from across district lines to facilitate the stated Legislative intent of increasing flexibility for parents and students to improve the educational opportunities for New Jersey citizens.

In support of this belief, NJSBA shall support legislation that amends the provisions of the School Choice Act to remove the provisions limiting the growth of Choice Schools in upcoming school years.

Resolved, that this resolution be placed on the agenda for consideration at the next scheduled Delegate Assembly.

Adopted at a regular meeting of the Glassboro Board of Education on November 20, 2013.



Walter S. Pudelko, III, School
Business Administrator/Board Secretary