



MOUNT HOREB AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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District Office | 1304 E. Lincoln Street, Mount Horeb, WI 53572

MOUNT HOREB AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF

INCREASING MENTAL HEALTH FUNDING FOR WISCONSIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, it is within the ever expanding mission of Wisconsin school districts to support kids both educationally as well as emotionally; and

WHEREAS, the Mount Horeb Area School District recognizes that access to mental health treatment has been identified as a national problem, and

WHEREAS, one in five students will experience a mental health issue, while over 80% of those incidents go untreated, and

WHEREAS, 50% of all lifetime cases of mental illness begin by age 14, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin suicide rate is consistently reported as being higher than the national average, and

WHEREAS, access to mental health care and specific cognitive therapies can decrease suicide risk, and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin school psychologists are staffed at a ratio of 979 students to just 1 school psychologist; social workers are staffed at 1,561 students to 1 school social worker, and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin districts are increasingly having to contract with outside mental health supports to provide mental health services to students on district property, and

WHEREAS, while students fortunate enough to be insured are able to access said mental health supports, increasingly, students who don't have Medicaid or private insurance are left without access to this needed support, and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin school social workers identify mental health as their top priority, but just 27% of school social workers have a specialty in mental health or clinical practice, and

WHEREAS, 37% of students with a mental health condition age 14 and older drop out of school – the highest dropout rate of any disability group, and

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WHEREAS, increases to school funding through the grant process picks winning and losing school districts, thus only allowing SOME kids to receive much needed mental health supports.


FURTHER, it is believed that Wisconsin public school children in all socio-economic conditions need consistent, reliable, life-saving access to mental health services.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mount Horeb Area Board of Education calls on Governor Evers, the Wisconsin State Assembly and the Wisconsin State Senate to increase funding on the revenue limit for mental health services and resources in schools.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being all of the members of the Board of Education for the Mount Horeb Area School District have executed this resolution the 25th day of February, 2019.



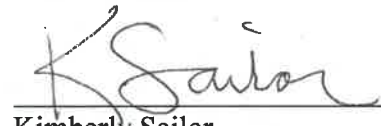
Leah Lipska
President



Diana Rothamer
Vice President




Jeff Hanna
Clerk



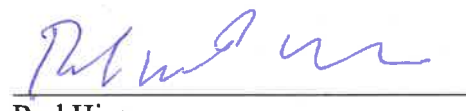
Kimberly Sailor
Treasurer



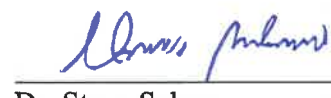
Dani Michels
Director



Damon Piscitelli
Director



Rod Hise
Director



Dr. Steve Salerno
Superintendent