Glocester Public Schools

Office of Superintendent 1145 Putnam Pike Chepachet, RI 02814

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Glocester School Committee Resolution Regarding Reduction in State Aid

Whereas, Our students are experiencing trauma, learning loss and increased time away from school due to circumstances of Covid 19, including quarantining as a "close contact" and

Whereas, A reduction in state aid may accelerate learning loss for students, and

Whereas, A reduction of this amount (\$95,000/18 students) makes a significant impact on our budget and may force the district to terminate a teacher or teacher assistants, which would reduce the ability of the district to effectively respond to additional Covid-related responsibilities, and

Whereas, Local Education Agencies are bound by State Maintenance of Effort requirements to maintain an amount not less than its local contribution for schools in the previous fiscal year ⁽¹⁾, in addition to a minimum of 3% of the operating budget dedicated exclusively for maintenance expenditures in fiscal year 2022-2023. ⁽²⁾

Whereas, The State of Rhode Island realized a surplus of \$332 million for the 2020-2021 fiscal year and is forecasting a \$618 million surplus for the current 2021-2022 year. (1)

Therefore: An increase in state aid is needed, not a decrease, in order to provide the supports and personnel required to accelerate learning for all of our students.

Resolved: The Glocester School Committee requests that RIDE, the Governor's Office and State leadership reconsider the reduction in state aid as a result of the consequences of Covid 19 and restore full funding to the Glocester School Department.

on Burlingame, Chair

1-19-202 Z Date

Glocester School Committee

Citations:

- 1) https://www.providencejournal.com/story/news/politics/2021/11/16/ri-budget-surplus-on-target-to-reach-618-million-dollars-this-year/6403202001/
- 2) https://www.wpri.com/news/politics/ri-budget-surplus-comes-in-51-million-higher-than-forecast/