

EVERETT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2 -- EVERETT, WASHINGTON
RESOLUTION 790
POSITION OF OPPOSITION TO CHARTER SCHOOLS LEGISLATION

A **RESOLUTION** from the Board of Directors of Everett School District No. 2, Snohomish County, State of Washington, for a position opposing charter schools.

WHEREAS, after ten years of experimentation with charter schools, in almost 40 states, the positive outcome, from such educational and financial experimentation, has proven to be minimal; and

WHEREAS, the ten-year outcome of experimentation offers no clear rationale for introducing charter schools to Washington State's school districts; and

WHEREAS, a study by the American Federation of Teachers (2002) found that charter schools, in comparison to their host districts, spend a greater percentage of their resources on administration; spend a smaller percentage of their funds on infrastructure, and provide fewer services such as transportation and food; and

WHEREAS, establishing a separate system of charter/opportunity schools, funded with taxpayer dollars with no oversight by an elected school board, is not consistent with Article IX, Section 2 of the Washington State Constitution which requires a general and uniform system of public schools; and

WHEREAS, charter school funding would come from public education dollars, without meaningful public accountability, allowing these charters to sidestep basic educational policies, entitlements, and the duty to provide diverse, integrated public education; and

WHEREAS, through outsourcing and other means, charter schools are part of a larger trend of the privatization of public education, thereby further reducing public school funding; and

WHEREAS, organizations such as the League of Women Voters of Washington, Washington Association of School Administrators, Washington State School Directors' Association, Washington Education Association, and American Association of University Women have also opposed charter school initiatives and legislation; and

WHEREAS, the voters of Washington State have twice defeated charter school initiatives at the polls (1996 and 2000); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors of Everett School District does not support the charter school legislation being considered by the 2004 Washington State Legislature. The Board of Directors of Everett School District does support providing alternative educational options for students and parents within the existing public school structure. The Board of Directors of Everett School District strongly encourages the legislature to provide additional appropriate funding to support these alternative district-developed and district-governed programs.

ADOPTED this 27 day of Jan., 2004.

Everett School District Board of Directors

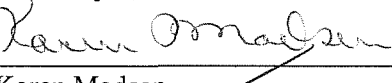


Kristie Dutton, President

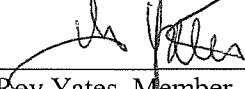


Paul Roberts, Vice President

Sue Cooper, Member

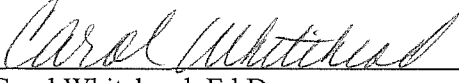


Karen Madsen



Roy Yates, Member

Attest:



Carol Whitehead, Ed.D.
Secretary to the Board