

**EVERETT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 2**  
**RESOLUTION No. 1031**  
**In Support of Education**

**WHEREAS**, Article IX of Washington's constitution declares, "It is the paramount duty of the state to make ample provision for the education of all children residing within its borders, without distinction or preference on account of race, color, caste, or sex" ; and

**WHEREAS**, courts have found the state to be in violation of its "paramount duty" on numerous occasions, most recently on February 4, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, the state further reduced funding for the 2011-13 biennial budget, cutting \$2.5 billion out of education at all levels; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to that, the state had already reduced \$2.3 billion out of education in the 2009-11 budget; and

**WHEREAS**, class size in our state is reported to be among the worst in the nation, and the last round of budgetary cuts further reduced funding for class sizes in grades K-3 as a cost-savings measure; and

**WHEREAS**, the board of directors believes that smaller classes sizes, more individualized instruction, and intervention, particularly at the pre-school and primary level, lead to better learning; and

**WHEREAS**, for 2011-13 the state continues to spend tens of millions of dollars per year on non-mandated testing, establishing new and additional state assessments while at the same time cutting the equivalent of funding for three days of instruction; and

**WHEREAS**, the economic recession requires legislators to make difficult choices while maintaining their constitutional duty, and consider all of their options for addressing the budget crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, Everett Public Schools cut \$16 million out of its local budget, requiring the elimination of over 100 positions in the last three years, resulting in increased class sizes at all levels; reduced course offerings; elimination of support personnel responsible for maintaining the safe, clean and positive learning environments in our local schools; and the loss of opportunities for students as co-curricular and extra-curricular programs have been cut;

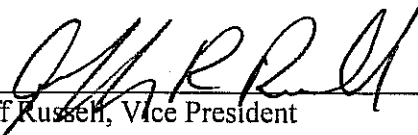
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, we, the undersigned, representing parents, staff, and community members who work in and support the public schools in Everett, respectfully request that the 2011-12 Washington State Legislature keeps cuts away from the schools, raises

revenue to support the schools, and eliminates those costly and intrusive burdens which take time and money away from serving the students of our community.

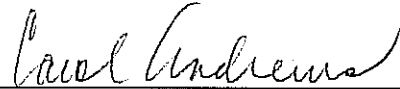
Adopted by the Board of Directors at its regular meeting this 22nd day of November, 2011.



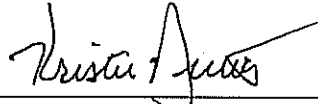
Ed Petersen, President



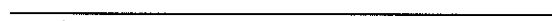
Jeff Russell, Vice President



Carol Andrews, Director



Kristie Dutton, Director



Jessica Olson, Director

Attest:



Dr. Gary Cohn  
Superintendent & Secretary to the Board of Directors  
Everett School District No. 2