October 24______ 2011

REVISED

CINCINNATI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ACTION MOTION 133

THE CINCINNATI SCHOOL BOARD'S PLEDGE TO THE CITIZENS OF THE DISTRICT TO ALLOCATE NEW MONIES GENERATED BY THE IMPROVEMENT LEVY TO THESE ENDS

WHEREAS, for Cincinnati to prosper, all schools must provide high quality education, which is essential to a thriving local economy and to attracting families, jobs and businesses to our area; and

WHEREAS, Cincinnati Public Schools' accomplishment of being the first urban district in Ohio to attain and sustain an Effective rating on the Ohio Report Card demonstrates that Cincinnati's students are capable of making strong academic progress when they are supported by the resources they need to succeed; and

WHEREAS, the arrival of more rigorous, technology-dependent Common Core academic standards and assessments heightens the importance of providing students with the learning tools required by a globally competitive economy; and

WHEREAS, support of students and families includes expanding quality educational choices and providing well-maintained school buildings; and

WHEREAS, while Cincinnati Public Schools has been fiscally responsible in reducing its costs, steep funding reductions and other actions by governmental entities and utilities have resulted in multimillion-dollar losses in revenue and undermined the district's ability to provide adequate resources to support students; and

WHEREAS, the Cincinnati Board of Education has placed before voters on the November 2011 ballot an Improvement Levy to provide students with the resources required for all schools to achieve academic excellence; and

WHEREAS, the Board promises the voters and citizens of the school district that the full amount raised by the passage of the levy will be placed in a separate capital budget from which only items and services designated as capital can be drawn for the following purposes:

School/Classroom Learning to be globally competitive

 Shortened refresh and replacement cycles for technology, textbooks and curricular adoption required by Ohio's adoption of Common Core academic standards and goals adopted by the Board of Education.

College and Career-ready Students

- Greater student and staff access to technology, texts and learning tools for 21st century skills.
- Opportunities for all students to be successful in careers, postsecondary education and service to our communities and country.

Capital support for Expansion of High-Demand programs

• Inclusion of more high-quality educational choices for families.

Schools and Teacher Accountability

• Continued use and further expansion of software and grants that promote and facilitate both the reporting and assessment of qualitative and quantitative data. This will further inform the community of teacher and school-level development and evaluation.

Maintenance and Facility Improvement

- Well-maintained school buildings that protect the community's investment in the new and renovated school facilities in the district.
- Safe and healthy learning environments for students, families, staff and community.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to ensure fiscal accountability, the Board will report quarterly to the public the financial activity in the capital and operating budgets and relate its impact on the implementation of a common core curriculum, closing both the achievement gap and digital divide, and widening program opportunities in our district of choice.

Melanie Bates Eileen Cooper Reed