

THE CITY OF WARWICK
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

NO..... DATE.....

APPROVED.....MAYOR

**RESOLUTION COMMITTING TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS, INCLUDING AN
ADDITIONAL 1.3 MILLION DOLLARS FOR SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAMS,
TO THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT IF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE AGREES
TO CERTAIN COMMITMENTS TO UTILIZE THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS
FOR SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAMS AND OTHER ITEMS**

Resolved that,

WHEREAS, the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Warwick are matters of paramount importance to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the School Committee has cut funding for, among other things, academic programs, after school activities, school sports programs, elementary school teacher assistants, custodial staff and accreditation for the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, the City Council does not agree with the School Committee’s decision to cut these programs and positions listed as priority items No.1 through No. 17 in the School Committee’s June 18, 2019 adopted proposed cuts, attached hereto as an exhibit, from their adopted budget for the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is aware that the City and the School Committee continue to engage in mediation to determine the need, or lack thereof, for additional funding for the 2019-2020 academic year; and

WHEREAS, the School Committee has represented that an additional \$1.3 Million is necessary to fund school sports in the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, it is the belief of the City Council that all parties are interested in funding these programs and positions for the upcoming school year in a timely manner to avoid the hardships and scheduling issues that would occur if resolution of this matter does not happen immediately; and

WHEREAS, the Warwick City Council commits through this Resolution that it will appropriate the necessary additional funds, including, an additional \$1.3 Million Dollars, to the

1 School Department for fiscal year 2020 for funding of priority items No. 1 through No. 17 on the
2 attached exhibit, provided that the Warwick School Committee first commits, through a duly
3 adopted Resolution of the School Committee, that all of the said newly appropriated funds will
4 be used for, and only for, priority items No. 1 through No. 17 on the attached exhibit; and
5

6 WHEREAS, it is the belief of the City Council that all parties agree that the current
7 funding situation for the School Committee is not sustainable, thus the School Committee must
8 also commit to duly adopting a Resolution stating it will conduct a thorough review of each of its
9 budgeted line items in comparison to comparable districts, such as Cranston, and to prepare a
10 detailed report of such, which it will disseminate to the City Council at least six (6) months prior
11 to submitting its proposed budget for the 2020-2021 academic year; and
12

13 WHEREAS, the School Committee must also commit to duly adopt a Resolution, based
14 on the above referenced review, to develop a plan of action to reduce expenditures, and will
15 prepare a detailed report of such, which it will disseminate to the City Council at least four (4)
16 months prior to submitting its proposed budget for the 2020-2021 academic year; and
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18 WHEREAS, the School Committee must also commit to allow for the City Council to
19 participate in the entirety of the process for both the above stated review and the development of
20 a plan of action, without limitation.
21

22 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Warwick City Council hereby commits
23 through this Resolution that it will appropriate the necessary additional funds, including an
24 additional \$1.3 Million Dollars, to the School Department for fiscal year 2020 for funding of the
25 priority items No. 1 through No. 17 from the School Department's adopted budget for the 2019-
26 2020 school year as agreed by the parties through mediation, provided that the Warwick School
27 Committee first agrees to the above stated commitments, through duly adopted Resolutions of
28 the School Committee.
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30 The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Mayor, the
31 City Finance Director, the members of the Warwick School Committee and the Superintendent
32 of the School Department.
33

34 This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.
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36 SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL PRESIDENT MEROLLA
37 COUNCILMAN CORLEY
38 COUNCILMAN RIX
39 COUNCILMAN HOWE
40 COUNCILMAN MCELROY
41 COUNCILMAN LADOUCEUR
42 COUNCILWOMAN TRAVIS
43 COUNCILMAN MCALLISTER
44 COUNCILMAN SINAPI
45 COMMITTEE: UNANIMOUS CONSENT