## RESOLUTION CALLING FOR REFORM OF FUNDING FOR CYBER CHARTER SCHOOLS

## BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE "SCHUYLKILL VALLEY" SCHOOL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the current funding formula for cyber charter schools in particular bears no relationship to the actual instructional costs of the distance learning program; and

WHEREAS, the cyber charter school funding formula in the Public School Code is based on the sending school district's prior year budgeted expenditures per average daily membership minus certain budgeted expenditures of the district of residence, rather than the cyber charter school's actual costs to educate the student; and

WHEREAS, the cyber charter school funding formula for special education differs from the formula used to calculate school district special education subsidies and again is based on the student's district of residence's special education expenditures for the prior school year; and

WHEREAS, students do not leave school districts to attend cyber charter schools in large groups within the same age range and, therefore, school districts are unable to proportionately reduce their budgets when students opt to enroll in a cyber charter school; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth is the sole authorizer of cyber charter schools, yet almost all of the costs for cyber charter schools are borne by local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the "Schuylkill Valley" School District's cyber charter school expenditures for the past 5 years reflect extraordinary costs that were borne by its taxpayers as follows:

Fiscal Year	Regular Ed Tuition Paid by the District to Cyber Schools	Special Ed Tuition Paid by the District to Cyber Schools	Total Tuition Paid by the District to Cyber Schools
2009-10	\$ 216,922.69	\$ 67,385.91	\$ 284,308.60
2010-11	\$ 263,210.95	\$ 63,382.38	\$ 326,593.33
2011-12	\$ 280,328.72	\$ 106,257.82	\$ 386,586.54
2012-13	\$ 386,694.88	\$ 149,546.95	\$ 536,241.83
2013-14	\$ 420,912.27	\$ 169,678.16	\$ 590,590.43
2014-15*	\$ 319,111.55	\$ 106,370.52	\$ 425,482.07

<sup>\*</sup> Actual as of March 31, 2015

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the "Schuylkill Valley" School Board urges its elected officials to support legislation that corrects the tuition for regular and special education to cyber charter schools so that it is based on the actual costs of educating their students and relieves the financial burden on school districts that ultimately causes tax increases and becomes the financial burden of local taxpayers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the elected senators and representatives of the "Schuylkill Valley" School District in the General Assembly, and to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Adopted this 27th day of April, 2015.

Signed,

School Board President

**Board Secretary**