

**THE CITY OF WARWICK
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS**

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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

APPROVED.....MAYOR

**RESOLUTION REGARDING THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR A
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF SIX MILLION SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND
DOLLARS FOR THE WARWICK SCHOOLS FOR THE 2019 FISCAL YEAR**

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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 Department requested an \$8.1 Million increase in local funding for the 2019 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, an increase in funding of that size was more than the amount of tax revenue that could be raised with a maximum tax levy increase; and

WHEREAS, the City Council did increase the local funding amount for the school department for the 2019 fiscal year by \$1.5 Million; and

WHEREAS, the City Council had previously increased the local funding amount for the school department in the 2018 fiscal year budget by \$3 Million, which amount remained funded for the 2019 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the School Department is closing 3 schools in the 2019 fiscal year which will reduce expenses for the School Department in the 2019 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, on August 6, 2018 the School Department requested to appear before the City Council to make a presentation and request a supplemental appropriation from the City in the amount of \$6.6 Million; and

WHEREAS, the City Council President has accommodated the request from the School Department and added the presentation by the School Department to the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting on August 15, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has proposed that the City would pay the debt service of the School Department, which is \$1,150,000 in principal payments and \$600,000 in interest

33 payments annually for a total of \$1.75 Million, all of which would bring the increase in local
34 funding paid directly to the School Department or paid on behalf of the School Department over
35 the past 2 fiscal years to \$6.25 Million; and
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37 WHEREAS, Section 5-23 of the Warwick City Charter entitled “Emergency
38 Appropriations” authorizes the City Council to provide a supplemental appropriation in that it
39 states:
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41 At any time in any fiscal year, the council may make emergency appropriations to
42 meet a pressing need for public expenditure, for other than a regular or recurring
43 requirement, to protect the public health, safety, or welfare. Such appropriation shall
44 be by resolution adopted by the favorable votes of at least five (5) members of the
45 council, and shall be made only upon recommendation of the mayor; and
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47 WHEREAS, the request for additional School Department funding has been made and
48 the Mayor has recommended a supplemental appropriation, but not in the amount requested by
49 the School Department; and
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51 WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the request for a supplemental
52 appropriation by the School Department and has also considered the Mayor’s recommendation
53 for additional funding to the School Department.
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55 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Warwick City Council hereby
56 considers paying the debt service of the Warwick School Department or appropriating to the
57 Warwick School Department for the 2019 fiscal year additional funding in an amount equal to or
58 less than the amount requested by the School Department, which debt service payment or
59 supplemental appropriation amount, if any is approved, will be determined after the budgetary
60 presentation to the City Council by the School Department.
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62 The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the members of
63 the Warwick School Committee, the Superintendent of the Warwick School Department and the
64 Finance Director of the City.
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66 This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.
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76 SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL PRESIDENT MEROLLA

77 COMMITTEE: UNANIMOUS CONSENT
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