

St. Joseph School District Board of Education Resolution Opposing Missouri Constitutional Amendment 5

WHEREAS, the Missouri Constitution guarantees every child the right to a free public education, and Missouri's public schools are entrusted with preparing students for college, careers, military service, and responsible citizenship; and

WHEREAS, the St. Joseph School District serves more than 10,268 students in grades Pre-K through 12 and employs approximately 1668 teachers, administrators, support staff, and other personnel committed to providing every student with a high-quality education; and

WHEREAS, the District's annual operating budget reflects that approximately **75 percent** of expenditures are dedicated to employee salaries and benefits, with remaining resources supporting transportation, nutrition services, instructional materials, technology, safety, maintenance, student support services, and other essential educational operations; and

WHEREAS, the District serves more than 178,578 student meals each month, operates transportation routes totaling approximately 5,300 miles each school day, and maintains approximately 2 million square feet of educational facilities serving students and the community; and

WHEREAS, school districts across Missouri continue to face rising costs associated with employee compensation, utilities, insurance, transportation, instructional resources, technology, food service, maintenance, and student services, while available revenues have not kept pace with those increasing obligations; and

WHEREAS, a significant portion of Missouri's General Revenue Fund supporting public education is derived from the individual income tax; and

WHEREAS, Missouri Constitutional Amendment 5 would substantially alter Missouri's tax structure, creating significant uncertainty regarding the long-term revenues available to support public education and other constitutionally required public services; and

WHEREAS, based upon an analysis of the potential fiscal effects of Amendment 5 using data from the Missouri Budget Project and the St. Joseph School District's current financial information, the District estimates that approval of the amendment could reduce District revenues by approximately \$13,956,509 annually equal to approximately 7 percent of the District's total operating budget, or approximately \$1,480 per student; and

WHEREAS, approximately 32 percent of the District's operating revenue is provided through state funding, making the St. Joseph School District especially vulnerable to significant reductions in state revenue dedicated to public education; and

WHEREAS, a funding reduction of this magnitude would threaten the District's ability to recruit and retain outstanding educators and staff, maintain competitive employee compensation, preserve classroom instruction and extracurricular opportunities, provide safe and reliable

transportation, operate nutrition programs, maintain secure facilities, support students with disabilities and specialized needs, and continue providing the educational opportunities expected by the families of St. Joseph; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education believes that Missouri's children should not bear the consequences of policies that undermine the stable, adequate, and sustainable funding necessary to fulfill the State's constitutional obligation to provide free public education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the St. Joseph School District formally opposes Missouri Constitutional Amendment 5 because of its potential to significantly reduce state revenues that support public education and because of the estimated \$13.96 million annual loss to the St. Joseph School District if the amendment is approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board urges the citizens of Missouri to vote against Missouri Constitutional Amendment 5 in order to protect the long-term financial stability of Missouri's public schools and preserve educational opportunities for current and future generations of students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board calls upon the Governor, the Missouri General Assembly, and all elected officials to support policies that provide stable, adequate, and sustainable funding for Missouri's public schools and to reject policies that jeopardize the State's constitutional commitment to public education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board reaffirms its commitment to responsible stewardship of taxpayer resources while continuing to advocate for adequate state funding that enables the District to recruit and retain exceptional educators, maintain safe schools, support student achievement, and prepare every student for success after graduation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board encourages parents, employees, business leaders, civic organizations, and community members to become informed about the fiscal impact of Amendment 5 and to join in supporting strong, well-funded public schools that strengthen the St. Joseph community and the State of Missouri.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Missouri, members of the Missouri General Assembly representing the St. Joseph region, the Missouri Commissioner of Education, the Missouri School Boards' Association, local media outlets, and other interested stakeholders.

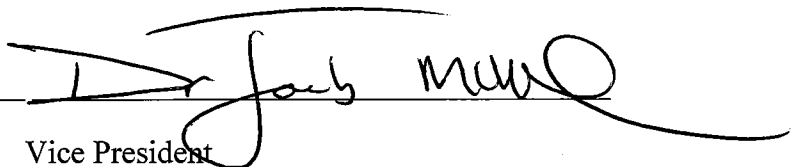
Adopted this 27 day of July, 2026.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

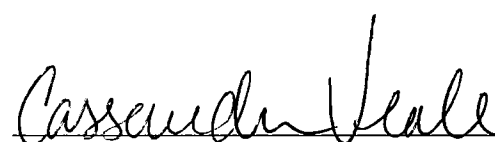
St. Joseph School District



President



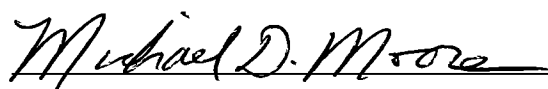
Vice President



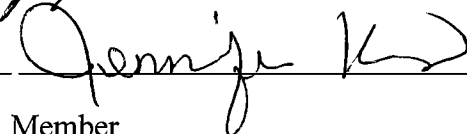
Member



Member



Member



Member



Member