



Resolution 19-013

CALL TO RESOLVE LEVY LID CRISIS

**Calling on Washington State House and Senate to Support Small Schools by
Approving a Levy Lid that Allows Necessary Levels of Local Support**

WHEREAS, Washington State inadequately funds small schools for basic education that includes school nurses, support for students with special needs, maintenance and custodial staff, and utilities such as electricity and phone; and,

WHEREAS, San Juan Island School District is distinguished by its arts program, aerospace design, food and culinary program, afterschool athletics, music program, and drama programs, recognizing that programs such as these are critical components of education for the young families in our intergenerational community; and,

WHEREAS, San Juan Island School District is a small school with enrollment of 795 students K-12; and,

WHEREAS, there are real economies of scale in education that make educating students in small school districts more expensive, with larger year-by-year variations, making management on a per-pupil basis more challenging than in large districts with tens of thousands of students; and,

WHEREAS, San Juan Island School District is counted in the top 5 employers on the island and is a key center of the community; and,

WHEREAS, San Juan Island School District voters approved by an overwhelming majority of votes (72%), the April 2018 enrichment levy which maintained funding levels of \$0.84 per \$1000 of assessed value (for the next two years), equivalent to an average of \$3,500 per enrolled student; and,

WHEREAS, the legislature's imposition of a levy lid of \$2,500 per student will lead to a shortfall of over \$745,400 per year (for the next two years) for San Juan Island School District; and,

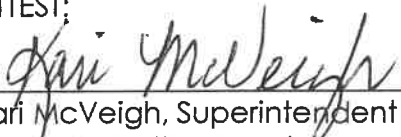
WHEREAS, at current rates of expenditure and revenues, San Juan Island School District reserves will drop to 8% in the current fiscal year, and are projected to be reduced to 2.14% by 2022-2023, putting our public school K-12 program at risk; and,

WHEREAS, 50% of all communities in Washington state are served by school districts with enrollments of less than 1,000 and therefore suffer from similar funding crises.

LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED THAT the San Juan Island School District Board of Directors calls on the Washington State House of Representatives and Senate to quickly arrive at a legislative solution that allows small schools like San Juan Island School District to collect the local voter approved enrichment funding necessary (for San Juan Island School District at least \$3,500 per student) for such districts to meet their unique small-school needs and remain in service to their students, families, and communities.

ADOPTED, this 18th day of December 2019, as authenticated by the signatures affixed below.

ATTEST:

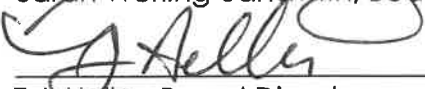

Kari McVeigh, Superintendent &
Secretary to the Board

SAN JUAN ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS:


John Kurtz, Board Chair


Barbara Bevens, Vice Chair


Sarah Werling-Sandwith, Board Director


T.J. Heller, Board Director


Brian Moore, Board Director