

RESOLUTION NO. 1385

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES, WASHINGTON, expressing support for student safety, diversity, valuing cohorts, and community connection for schools in the City of Des Moines.

WHEREAS, the City supports diversity, equity, safety and inclusion of all of its citizens, neighbors and visitors, and

WHEREAS, the City supports the vision and goals of the Highline Public Schools as an essential partner to help students become the best they can be and recognize mutual interests that help build great communities, and

WHEREAS, the City has had a long and positive history of collaboration and partnership with the Highline School District, and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the sovereignty of the Highline School District School Board and the complex and sensitive analysis and considerations that are required when reviewing school boundary issues, and

WHEREAS, the City supports a need for school boundaries and feeder patterns that demonstrate a long-lasting sense of belonging, community, and neighborhood identity for children, and

WHEREAS, the City supports boundaries and feeder patterns that support a diverse student population and safety at schools and that assures students living in the City of Des Moines will, to the greatest extent possible, go to the same middle and high school with their elementary school cohorts, and

WHEREAS, the City supports a strong need to provide children with simple and safe transportation to school, while encouraging walking and bicycling whenever possible, and

WHEREAS, the City strongly supports a Des Moines student's ability to attend schools in the City of Des Moines where they are eligible for City of Des Moines scholarships enabling them to attend before and after school programs, and

WHEREAS, the City Council has received input from concerned members of the community regarding the proposed boundary line changes proposed by the Highline School District Capital Facilities Advisory Committee (CFAC), and

WHEREAS, the City Council opposes boundary line changes that would break up cohorts; break up communities' strong, lasting and stable relationships with a highly diverse student and parent population; and/or that would introduce unnecessary transportation safety issues, and

WHEREAS, the City Council encourages the Highline School District Board to consider alternative options that would fully address the concerns of members of our community; now therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Sec. 1. The City Council expresses support for inclusion, community, neighborhood identity, long-lasting relationships, and safety for all children attending Highline Public Schools.

Sec. 2. The City Council encourages the Highline School District Board to thoroughly consider all alternatives that limit existing boundary changes, keep communities together, promote safety for children, support diversity and foster enduring, stable, safe neighborhoods.

Sec. 3. The City Clerk is directed to certify to the Highline Public School District a copy of this Resolution upon adoption.

ADOPTED BY the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Washington this 26th day of April, 2018 and signed in authentication thereof this 26th day of April, 2018.



M A Y O R

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



City Attorney

ATTEST:



City Clerk