

THE CITY OF WARWICK  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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

APPROVED.....MAYOR

**RESOLUTION COMMITTING TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS, INCLUDING AN ADDITIONAL 1.3 MILLION DOLLARS FOR SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAMS, TO THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT IF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE AGREES TO CERTAIN COMMITMENTS ~~COMMITTS TO UTILIZE THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAMS~~**

**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 Committee has cut funding for, among other things, academic programs, after school activities, school sports programs, elementary school teachers assistants, custodial staff, and accreditation for the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, the City Council does not agree with the School Committee’s decision to cut sports-these programs and positions, listed as priority items No. 1 through No. 17 in the School Committee’s June 18, 2019 adopted proposed cuts, from their adopted budget for the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is aware that the City and the School Committee continue to engage in mediation to determine the need, or lack thereof, for additional funding for the 2019-2020 academic year; and

WHEREAS, the School Committee has represented that an additional \$1.3 Million is necessary to fund school sports in the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, it is the belief of the City Council that all parties are interested in funding school-sports-these programs and positions for the upcoming school year in a timely manner to avoid the hardships and scheduling issues that would occur if resolution of this matter does not happen immediately; and

WHEREAS, the Warwick City Council commits through this Resolution that it will appropriate the necessary additional funds, including an additional \$1.3 Million Dollars, to the School Department for fiscal year 2020 for funding of the-priority items No. 1 through No.

1 ~~17~~2019-2020 sports programs in the School Department, provided that the Warwick School  
2 Committee first commits, through a duly adopted Resolution of the School Committee, that all of  
3 the said newly appropriated funds will be used for, and only for, priority items No. 1 through No.  
4 17~~the 2019-2020 school sports programs~~; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, the School Committee must also commit that the above referenced  
7 Resolution will also provide that, should the ongoing mediation determine that any funds  
8 provided were not needed by the School Committee to fund priority items No. 1 through No. 17,  
9 then any such funds would be returned to the City Council or reduced from the School  
10 Committee's budget for the 2020-2021 academic year and will not be factored into the  
11 Maintenance of Effort Calculation; and

12  
13 WHEREAS, it is the belief of the City Council that all parties agree that the current  
14 funding situation for the School Committee is not sustainable, thus the School Committee must  
15 also commit to duly adopting a Resolution stating it will conduct a thorough review of each of its  
16 budgeted line items in comparison to comparable districts, such as Cranston, and to prepare a  
17 detailed report of such, which it will disseminate to the City Council at least six (6) months prior  
18 to submitting its proposed budget for the 2020-2021 academic year; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, the School Committee must also commit to duly adopt a Resolution to,  
21 based on the above referenced review, develop a plan of action to reduce expenditures, and will  
22 prepare a detailed report of such, which it will disseminate to the City Council at least four (4)  
23 months prior to submitting its proposed budget for the 2020-2021 academic year; and

24  
25 WHEREAS, the School Committee must also commit to allow for the City Council to  
26 participate in the entirety of the process for both the above stated review and the development of  
27 a plan of action, without limitation.

28 ~~WHEREAS, acceptance of the additional funding by the School Committee for school~~  
29 ~~sports in the 2019-2020 school year would not act as a release by the School Committee or~~  
30 ~~preclude the School Committee from pursuing all other available options relative to their~~  
31 ~~requests for additional funding over and above \$1.3 Million, including, but not limited to,~~  
32 ~~negotiations and mediation with the City and/or pursuit of remedies at law available to the~~  
33 ~~School Committee.~~

34  
35 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Warwick City Council hereby commits  
36 through this Resolution that it will appropriate the necessary additional funds, including an  
37 additional \$1.3 Million Dollars, to the School Department for fiscal year 2020 for funding of the  
38 priority items No. 1 through No. 17 from the School Department's adopted budget for the 2019-  
39 2020 school year~~the 2019-2020 sports programs in the School Department~~, provided that the  
40 Warwick School Committee first agrees to the above stated commitments~~commits~~, through a  
41 duly adopted Resolution(s) of the School Committee, ~~that all of the said newly appropriated~~  
42 ~~funds will be used for, and only for, the 2019-2020 school sports programs; and~~

43  
44 ~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that acceptance of the additional funding by the School~~  
45 ~~Committee for school sports in the 2019-2020 school year would not act as a release by the~~

1 ~~School Committee or preclude the School Committee from pursuing all other available options~~  
2 ~~relative to their requests for additional funding over and above \$1.3 Million, including, but not~~  
3 ~~limited to, negotiations and mediation with the City and/or pursuit of remedies at law available to~~  
4 ~~the School Committee.~~

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6 The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Mayor, the  
7 City Finance Director, the members of the Warwick School Committee and the Superintendent  
8 of the School Department.

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10 This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.  
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17 SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL PRESIDENT MEROLLA  
18 COUNCILMAN CORLEY  
19 COUNCILMAN RIX  
20 COUNCILMAN HOWE  
21 COUNCILMAN ED LADOUCEUR  
22 COUNCILWOMAN TRAVIS  
23 COUNCILMAN MCALLISTER  
24 COUNCILMAN SINAPI

25  
26  
27  
28 COMMITTEE: UNANIMOUS CONSENT