

RESOLUTION

TEACHER QUALITY

WHEREAS, the Harford County Public Schools and the community require that all children be prepared as life long learners for a new economy in which workers are thinkers and problem solvers who appreciate diversity; and

WHEREAS, every child deserves an excellent teacher beginning on their first day of public school education; and

WHEREAS, teaching experience appears to have an influence on student achievement, performance and learning; and

WHEREAS, our children are required to meet higher educational standards, and; whereas, higher standards and stronger accountability systems rely on the presence of excellent teachers; and

WHEREAS, teachers need practical support in the classroom and research strongly suggests that mentor programs improve the quality of instruction; and

WHEREAS, teacher retention is becoming more critical than teacher recruitment; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Harford County Council of PTA, Inc. encourages the Board of Education of Harford County to develop benchmarks to assess the overall health of our teaching workforce; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Harford County Council of PTA, Inc. encourages the Board of Education of Harford County to develop strategies that not only ensure excellent teachers are recruited, but that programs are in place to ensure that teachers are nurtured and retained; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Harford County Council of PTA, Inc. supports efforts to upgrade the quality of our public school teachers, recognizing that mentor programs is one tool that holds the potential to help the entire profession of teaching to advance with time and to ensure quality classroom instruction for every child; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Harford County Council of PTA, Inc. encourages the local, state, and federal government to establish the necessary funding commensurate for the professional preparation and ongoing support necessary for quality teaching.

ADOPTED 08.23.03