

..Number

071703

..Version

PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE A

..Reference

..Sponsor

ALD. ZIELINSKI, WADE, BOHL, DONOVAN AND BAUMAN

..Title

Resolution expressing City of Milwaukee support for efforts to end unrestricted busing of Milwaukee Public School ("MPS") students.

..Analysis

At present, MPS offers bus service to any student who lives a minimum of one mile from his or her attending school. This resolution expresses the Common Council's support of efforts to eliminate busing and provide this service only to specific student segments. Savings from reduced busing will be used to develop educational programs and reopen schools on the north side. Busing will continue to be offered to students attending citywide specialty schools, students living more than 2 miles from neighborhood schools, chronically disruptive students bused to alternative schools and students with disabilities.

..Body

Whereas, The current MPS busing policy has provided no discernible benefits, as measured by academic performance, attendance, parental involvement or participation in extracurricular activities, to the students of MPS; and

Whereas, MPS continues to experience declining enrollment and financial pressures; and

Whereas, These financial pressures have necessitated the reduction or elimination of academic programs and the closing of numerous schools; now, therefore be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the Common Council supports efforts to end unrestricted busing of MPS students and restrict busing to:

1. Students attending citywide specialty schools.
2. Neighborhood students living more than 2 miles from their schools.
3. Chronic disruptive students to alternative schools controlled by MPS.
4. Students with disabilities as specified in their individual education plans.

;and, be it

Further Resolved, That 70% of the monies saved by reducing busing will be applied to programs that contribute to a quality and comprehensive education including art, music, guidance, science, foreign language and before and after-school programs; and, be it

Further Resolved, That 30% of the monies saved by reducing busing will be applied to re-opening schools in the north side regions of MPS; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the City Clerk shall send a certified copy of this resolution to the superintendent of MPS and all MPS board members.

..Requestor

..Drafter
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MST
4/21/08