



Dear Superintendent and School Board Members,

When OSSBA and CCOSA leadership collaboratively launched *For the People: A Vision for Oklahoma Public Education* two years ago, the effort seemed a bit daunting. But we knew then — as we know now — that it was time for a new conversation around public education focused on solutions. With the change in leadership at the state level, there's never been a better time to start saying YES to changes and improvements that will help public education better serve all children.

The vision steering committee, comprised of dozens of administrators and school board members from across the state, finished its initial report in April. Soon after, OSSBA and CCOSA commissioned and began implementing a marketing and communications plan to begin sharing the findings and recommendations with our members, policymakers and the community at-large. It has always been our hope that local school leaders would use *For the People* as a starting point for local conversations about how to make our schools even better. As associations, *For the People* will guide much of our work at the state Capitol.

As leaders, we are saying YES to a new day and a new vision for public education. On behalf of the vision steering committee, we respectfully request local superintendents and school board members say YES to this unified vision by approving the enclosed *For the People* resolution. **Our hope is boards will consider the resolution in December or January so we can demonstrate to lawmakers in February that school leaders throughout the state are ready to embrace real solutions that have the power to transform our schools.**

Upon board approval, please indicate the approval online at www.forthepeopleok.com/resolution or fax confirmation of the approval to 405.528.5695. You can also email confirmation to Stephanie Hyder at stephanieh@ossba.org. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Shawn Hime
Executive Director, OSSBA

Steven Crawford
Executive Director, CCOSA





The _____ Board of Education and Superintendent believe all Oklahoma public school students deserve to learn in an environment that maximizes their potential and develops them as leaders who will contribute to a meaningful life in a democracy, propelling our state forward into a competitive, global society.

We believe it is imperative for our district and our state to:

- Affirm our commitment to student success.
- Create and protect quality learning experiences for all students.
- Rebuild trust and support for education.
- Engage community stakeholders in the success of our public schools.
- Communicate a clear and effective vision for public education in Oklahoma.
- Ensure the voice of local public school and community leaders drives education policy and advocate for an educated citizenry as the way to move our economy forward.

We believe *For the People: A Vision for Oklahoma Public Education* will assist our district and other districts to transform education for all Oklahoma children. We hereby say YES to:

- Local schools and communities working together to create supportive conditions for students both in and out of schools and to understand the culture and needs of their students.
- New strategies and approaches to learning, teaching and assessment, informed by what experts know about the art of teaching and science of learning.
- Authentic and meaningful early learning and out-of-class learning opportunities.
- A new local control dynamic in the pursuit of enhanced school governance, leadership and accountability that favors flexibility over one-size-fits-all programs and policies.
- Valuing, recruiting and retaining effective teachers in every Oklahoma public school classroom.
- Establishing a process to construct or reconstruct quality, equitable learning environments, irrespective of a local school district's financial condition.
- Meaningful collaboration with state policymakers for a long-term strategy to properly fund the people's schools and coordination of any short- and long-term tax and spending policies in alignment with a long-term school funding strategy.

Be it **RESOLVED** that, the _____ Board of Education and Superintendent on this ____ day of _____, hereby pledge to support the work embedded in *For the People: A Vision for Oklahoma Public Education* and will determine areas of transformation for our district in our continuing efforts to improve educational opportunities for all students.

Board of Education President

Superintendent

