## RESOLUTION OF THE POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1 BOARD OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY FOR CERTAIN GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

**WHEREAS,** on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic, meaning the WHO identified the worldwide spread of a new disease; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020 Governor Jared Polis declared a state of emergency and issued Executive Order D 2020 003 on March 11, 2020 as a safeguard against the further spread of COVID-19. On October 30, 2020, Executive Order D 2020 234 extended Executive Order D 2020 003; and

**WHEREAS,** Larimer County is currently at the Safer at Home, Cautious level of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's "Dial" framework; and

**WHEREAS,** under Colorado Constitution, Article 9, Section 15, the local Board of Education has control of instruction in its public schools; and

WHEREAS, under C.R.S. § 22-2-106(a.5) the Colorado State Board of Education has the duty to adopt a comprehensive set of guidelines for the establishment of high school graduation requirements to be used by each school district board of education in developing local high school graduation requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado State Board of Education has granted districts flexibility with the State of Colorado's graduation options because of the disruption to learning caused by the pandemic. This flexibility allows local education providers to graduate students according to district determined graduation requirements that either include the Graduation Guidelines Menu of Options and/or local data of their choice, such as courses, for the 2020-2021 school year only; and

WHEREAS, the graduation, diploma and certificate requirements specified in Poudre School District Policy IKF-2017 apply to students who enter the 9<sup>th</sup> grade for the first time in the 2017-2018 school year and thereafter. Policy IKF-2017 provides that students must meet or exceed the cut scores or criteria on one English assessment and one Mathematics assessment or complete a College or Career Readiness measure from the approved measures listed in the Policy.

**WHEREAS,** the Board of Education finds that the current pandemic creates the need to delay full implementation of these graduation requirements as identified in Board Policy IKF-2017 until the 2021-2022 school year.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Poudre School District Board of Education will provide flexibility in the graduation requirements stated in Policy IKF-2017 for the 2020-2021 school year only as set forth below:

- 1. That in addition to the List of Approved College and Career Readiness Measures provided in Policy IKF-2017, the core credit requirement of 40 credit hours in Language Arts and 30 credit hours in Mathematics meets the college and career readiness measures. This equivalency only applies to those students who receive a high school diploma from the District by August 31, 2021.
- 2. That for the 2020-2021 school year, graduates must still comply with all other graduation requirements outlined in Policy IKF-2017, including academic requirements.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution is in effect through August 31, 2021, unless otherwise rescinded or extended by the Board.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that execution of this Resolution is conclusive evidence of the Board's approval of this action and of the authority granted herein.

Adopted and Approved this \_\_\_\_ day of November, 2020.

POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1

ATTEST:

**Board President** 

Board Secretary