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CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-97

INTRODUCED BY:

Councilor Dominguez
Councilor Trujillo
Mayor Coss

A RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE SANTA FE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE EFFORTS OF ITS SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD OF EDUCATION TO MAINTAIN ITS EXISTING BUDGET DURING THE UPCOMING SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

WHEREAS, the New Mexico State Legislature will convene in a Special Session beginning on October 17, 2009; and

WHEREAS, lawmakers are anticipating a \$675 million shortfall in the budget, which the New Mexico Legislature will try to curb by making cuts to education; and

WHEREAS, there may be proposals to cut the Santa Fe Public School District's current program cost of \$89,036,221.00 by \$8,646,616.00, almost 10%; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe Public School District ("District") is currently addressing school funding and possible cuts to their existing operational budget; and

WHEREAS, the District recognizes that the economic situation and the magnitude of the state budget shortfall is both mathematically and statistically impossible without

1 creating revenue generators and revenue enhancements; and

2 **WHEREAS**, at the October 8, 2009 “State of the Budget” the Superintendent stated
3 that “We must continue to be protective of the classrooms and programs that support our
4 students, and we must continue to work with our Legislative Body to find both short and long
5 term solutions to a very serious problem – appropriate educational funding for New Mexico’s
6 future...”; and

7 **WHEREAS**, in May 2009, the Board of Education reduced the District operational
8 budget by 4.5 million dollars because the State’s general fund commitment to public
9 education was reduced by 165 million dollars in the 2009 Legislative Session; and

10 **WHEREAS**, according to the Superintendent, additional budget cuts would mean the
11 following for Santa Fe public schools:

- 12 “1. Larger class sizes
- 13 2. Elimination of educational assistants
- 14 3. Reduction of employee salaries
- 15 4. Closure of more schools
- 16 5. Elimination of athletics (either restricted to weekends or not at all
- 17 6. Elimination of student transportation
- 18 7. Elimination of instructional materials
- 19 8. Use of Cash balance to meet operational budget requirements
- 20 9. Depletion of emergency funds”;

21 **WHEREAS**, the Superintendent has asked for help from the community at large in
22 speaking to Legislators about such things as: diversion of all “special projects (e.g.
23 Spaceport) and use those funds to support the state’s school transportation budgets and
24 instructional material budgets;” insisting “that all unspent Direct Appropriations be applied to
25 education to lessen or eliminate budget cuts to education;” insisting “that in the January 2010

1 Session the Legislature invoke tax reform;" and insisting "that if cuts must be made to
2 educational budgets that these cuts be minimal"; and

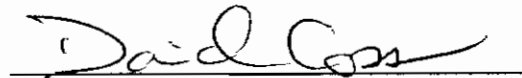
3 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body supports the efforts of the Superintendent and the
4 District and encourages our community to contact State Legislators about proposed
5 educational cuts.

6 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF**
7 **THE CITY OF SANTA FE** that the Governing Body supports the Santa Fe Public School
8 District and the efforts of its superintendent and board of education to maintain its existing
9 budget during the upcoming special legislative session.

10 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the community of Santa Fe is encouraged
11 to support the efforts of the District by contacting State Legislators about proposed educational
12 cuts.

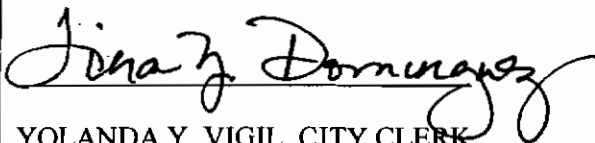
13 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Clerk is directed to forward a
14 copy of this Resolution to the Superintendent and the Board of Education of the Santa Fe
15 Public School District and to Santa Fe's Legislative Delegation.

16 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 14th day of October, 2009.

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19 DAVID COSS, MAYOR

20 ATTEST:

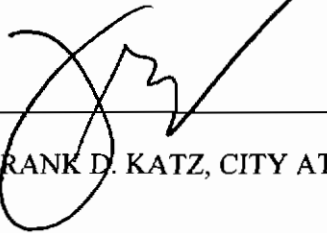
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23 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

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APPROVED AS TO FORM:



FRANK D. KATZ, CITY ATTORNEY