RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1

Regarding the Census 2020

WHEREAS, the Douglas County School District strives to maximize the potential of every student to pursue his or her chosen endeavor in society, including but not limited to postsecondary education, career, or military service; and

WHEREAS, this year is the decennial Census required by the US Constitution to enumerate every person residing in the United States, and is fundamental to ensuring that all residents of our great city have access to fair representation, essential services, and economic development over the next ten years; and

WHEREAS, an accurate count of persons living in Douglas County in the 2020 Census is vital to determine the representation of individuals, families, and communities in our local, state, and federal governments; and household specific information cannot be shared with other government agencies under the penalty of fines and/or imprisonment codified in Title 13 not even through an Executive Order. And, there is no questions regarding citizenship or immigration status, and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Census count of children living in Douglas County will be the basis of federal education funding allocated to our schools over the next ten years, specifically the federal programs serving our students living in poverty, with disabilities, and students with English as their second language; the Douglas County School District has received nearly \$103 million in vital funds for school nutrition programs and supports for these students to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards and have a well-rounded education; and

WHEREAS, the Census has historically undercounted populations in large communities such as ours; and it is estimated that 18% of our community fall into this population. The current estimated population for Douglas County is 342,766. With an undercount of 18% Douglas County stands to lose federal funding for 75,241 residents for the next ten years; and

WHEREAS, the populations that are at high risk of being undercounted include young children, people of color, low-income households, language minority families, foreign-born residents, and households with limited internet access, especially children residing in multigenerational or extended family households according to the U.S. Census; and

WHEREAS, during the 2020 Census, there is a heightened risk of an undercount due to the digital divide, language access issues, and local community mistrust in the federal government; and

WHEREAS, local and state governments, as well as community-based organizations, can play a critical role in counteracting the undercount risks, reaching hard-to-count populations, and ensuring their communities get counted in 2020; and

WHEREAS, accurate census information is critical to the Douglas County School District's planning for future growth, development and social needs, and securing equitable funding to address those needs; and

WHEREAS, it is paramount for the school board, superintendent, principals, teachers, parent organizations, and all local leaders in Douglas County School District to communicate the importance of Census 2020 to families and community members to ensure everyone is counted.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Douglas County School District Board of Education is committed to working in partnership with other local civic, business, and community leaders, the State of Colorado, and others to engage, educate, and count every Douglas County resident in the 2020 Census.

Approved this 4th day of February, 2020 by a vote of 7-0.

DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1

David Ray

President, Board of Education

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Attest:

Elizabeth Hanson

Secretary, Board of Education