

**RESOLUTION NO. 20  
SERIES 2018**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CRESTED BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL SUPPORTING “AMENDMENT 73”, A STATEWIDE SCHOOL FUNDING INITIATIVE THAT WILL INCREASE INCOME TAXES FOR 8% OF TAX FILERS AND FOR C CORPORATIONS, WHILE DECREASING PROPERTY TAXES FOR BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, FARMERS AND RANCHERS**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Crested Butte believes that every student should have the opportunity to reach his or her full potential and to participate meaningfully in the civic and economic life of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, quality public education develops a competitive workforce that will drive a vibrant Colorado economy for decades to come; and

**WHEREAS**, Colorado is experiencing a teacher shortage crisis and many teachers in rural districts do not make enough salary to meet the cost of living; and

**WHEREAS**, Colorado's investment in education is lagging behind other states — Colorado ranks 48th nationally in personal income invested in education; and

**WHEREAS**, Amendment 73 will bring Colorado’s investment in public education closer to the national average by raising \$1.6 billion dollars annually; provide sustainable support for schools by stabilizing school property taxes; provide additional funding for all students and address the most pressing needs of Colorado’s public schools — specifically, funding for full-day kindergarten and a significant increase in funding for Early Childhood programs, Special Education programs, At-Risk students, English Language Learners and Gifted & Talented students; and

**WHEREAS**, education funding has not recovered from the recession; in the 2018-19 school year alone, Colorado schools are underfunded by \$672.4 million; and

**WHEREAS**, the loss due to the negative factor to the Gunnison Watershed School District has been over \$16.1 million since 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, reduced funding is directly impacting the District’s ability to provide meaningful educational opportunities for all students; and

**WHEREAS**, the reduced funding also limits the Board’s ability to respond to parents and community input on the District’s programs and services, despite the Board’s great desire to engage with and respond to its community; and

**WHEREAS**, Amendment 73 expands students’ educational opportunities to prepare them for success in college, career and life; preparing a qualified workforce for decades to come; and ensuring that Colorado's economic prosperity is shared with every community throughout the

state; and

**WHEREAS**, Amendment 73 gives local school boards greater ability to respond to parent and community input and provide programs and services to meet the needs of all their students; and

**WHEREAS**, if Amendment 73 passes, the Gunnison Watershed School District Board has committed to focusing on the following priorities: expand funding for facilities, infrastructure and technology; provide additional staffing and make salaries more competitive; bolster counseling and mental health services; expand preschool funding; expand career and technical education programs; keep curricular materials current; and increase funding for all programs, while acknowledging that priorities will evolve as community engagement is an ongoing process and revenue from Amendment 73 is annual funding; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO THAT:**

The Town of Crested Butte supports Amendment 73 and strongly urges a vote of YES this November.

**INTRODUCED, READ AND ADOPTED BEFORE THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO THIS 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2018.**

**TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

James A. Schmidt, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynelle Stanford, Town Clerk

