

***AFTP supports the Community School Model***

**WHEREAS**, The National Center for Children in Poverty estimates about 15 million children in the United States—21% of all children—live in families below the federal poverty threshold, a measurement that has been shown to underestimate the needs of families. Research shows that, on average, families need an income of about twice that level to cover basic expenses; and

**WHEREAS**, using this standard, 43% of American children live in low income families; and

**WHEREAS**, poverty can impede children's ability to learn, contributes to social, emotional, and behavioral problems and is the single greatest threat to children's well-being; and,

**WHEREAS**, a comprehensive community school model has been proven to provide students and their families with effective and impactful supports, well prepared and effective educators, equitable school funding, and positive discipline policies; and

**WHEREAS**, a comprehensive community school model provides positive and authentic supports to students and their families including wraparound academic, social/emotional and health supports, engaged parents and communities, universal access to high quality Pre-K and expanded learning time; and

**WHEREAS**, a comprehensive community school model continues to show great promise and progress in school districts like Cincinnati, Ohio; Oakland, California; Evansville, Indiana; Hartford, Connecticut, and a number of other school districts across the United States; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that AFT Pennsylvania will assist affiliates with AFT's efforts to expand the comprehensive community school model into interested locals.

**RESOLVED**, that AFT Pennsylvania will provide interested locals with information about and research on the community school model, and the progress that it continues to make in AFT locals across Pennsylvania and across the country.

**RESOLVED**, that AFT Pennsylvania will advocate to the state legislature for funding to help support the comprehensive community school model in districts across the Commonwealth.

Committee Recommends Concurrence as Amended