

RESOLUTION

Resolution of the Obion County Board of Education opposing any legislation to create a statewide or alternate authorizer for charter schools that would bypass locally elected boards of education and usurp the responsibilities entrusted to them by their constituencies; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, the Obion County Board of Education is comprised of members who are popularly elected to be responsible for providing a local system of public education; and

WHEREAS, charter schools have had a presence in Tennessee for more than ten years with local boards serving as authorizers; and

WHEREAS, charter schools are public schools and their failures or successes are attributed to the authorizing school system; and

WHEREAS, local boards thoughtfully and systematically review a charter application prior to making a determination to approve or deny; and

WHEREAS, charter applicants may appeal a denial of a local board of education to the state board of education; and

WHEREAS, despite dozens of appeals to the state board, only a handful of local decisions have been overturned; and

WHEREAS, members of local boards are in their communities every day working with parents, teachers, and students; and

WHEREAS, local boards of education work diligently to make the best decisions for their students and communities; and

WHEREAS, local boards are held directly accountable through the electorate; and

WHEREAS, each school district is unique and decisions impacting public education should be made by the elected board of education which has a physical presence in the community, not by an appointed body with no such presence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Obion County, Tennessee, meeting in regular session on this 14th day of January, 2013, that:

SECTION 1. The Obion County Board of Education opposes any legislation to create a statewide or alternate authorizer for charter schools that would bypass locally elected boards of education and usurp the responsibilities entrusted to them by their constituencies.

SECTION 2. A copy of this **Resolution** shall be transmitted to the Tennessee School Boards Association, and any other interested individual or entity.

SECTION 3. This **Resolution** shall take effect upon adoption, the public welfare requiring it.

Brian Rainey
Chairman

Diane Sanderson
Vice Chairman

ATTEST:

(Seal)

David W. Huss, Director of Schools
Secretary to the Board

Adopted by the Board of Education of Obion County, Tennessee, this 14th day of January, 2013.