

School Board Resolution on School Start Date Change

WHEREAS the State of Wisconsin by state statute has indicated that public school districts in the State of Wisconsin cannot start school before September 1 pursuant to *Wis. Stat. sec. 118.045 Commencement of school term*; and

WHEREAS the school board may commence a school term prior to September 1st if it submits a written request to the Department of Public Instruction asking for an earlier start date listing the extraordinary reasons for the earlier start date request; and

WHEREAS local control over the start date would allow for additional days of instruction for students prior to state and local assessments, and preparation for the ACT and Advanced Placement; and

WHEREAS local control over the start date will allow Gresham School District staff to participate in professional development college coursework for license renewal as K12 schedules become more aligned with postsecondary schedules; and

WHEREAS local control over the start date will allow the Gresham School District to better align its school calendar with the co-curricular schedule for students that begins in early August; and

WHEREAS tourism has changed to where most tourists leave Wisconsin in early or mid-August and in States surrounding Wisconsin regionally, public schools start co-curricular activities in early to mid-August; and

WHEREAS private, voucher, and charter schools have the flexibility to start prior to September 1st and still receive public funding from the State of Wisconsin.

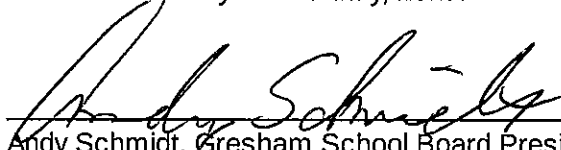
WHEREAS the State Superintendent is recommending in his 2017-19 Biennial Budget to allow the Milwaukee Public School District to be provided an exception to this provision in the state law ***to allow the district to maximize learning opportunities***; therefore, the opportunity should be granted for all school districts in the State of Wisconsin.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Gresham School District is officially requesting approval to commence the school term prior to September 1st and establish local control in determining the school calendar.

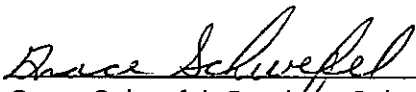
BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER that the Gresham School District will be better able to educate its school children because of this flexibility as greater outcomes are anticipated academically as well as preventing absenteeism and for the safety of students.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER that on February 6, 2017, the Gresham School District unanimously passed this Resolution in order to establish local control for the school calendar by a 6-0 vote (1 absent).

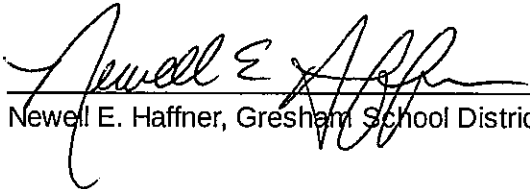
Dated this 6th day of February, 2017.



Andy Schmidt, Gresham School Board President



Grace Schwefel, Gresham School Board Clerk



Newell E. Haffner, Gresham School District Administrator