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Allan T. Smith, *Superintendent*

Resolution Opposing the Implementation of Sequestration for Federal Funding for Public Schools

- WHEREAS, a world class public education is essential for the future success of our nation and today's schoolchildren; and
- WHEREAS, the Budget Control Act of 2011 was amended by the American Taxpayer Relief Act, which includes provisions to impose more than \$1.1 trillion in across-the-board budget cuts to almost all federal programs including education that would become effective March 1, 2013; and
- WHEREAS, these across-the-board budget cuts, also known as sequestration, would impact education by a reduction in funds of an estimated 5.9 percent or more and could result in larger class sizes, fewer course offerings, loss of extracurricular activities, and teacher and staff lay-offs; and
- WHEREAS, Edenton-Chowan Schools, has since July 1, 2008, sustained significant net losses in its local (\$531,139 or 13.4%) and state (\$1.25 million or 7.7%) funding, with negative impacts at the classroom level being mitigated by receipt of Federal Education Stimulus Funds in 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 and Federal Edu-Jobs Funds in 2011-2012; and
- WHEREAS, Edenton-Chowan Schools has experienced a loss of 15 teaching positions, 8 teacher assistants, and 16 classified employees since 2007-2008; and
- WHEREAS, sequestration would impact almost every public school system in the nation and the millions of students educated through programs such as Title I grants for disadvantaged students, the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), English Language Acquisition, Career and Technical Education, 21st Century Community Learning Centers, and more; and
- WHEREAS, Edenton-Chowan Schools, as well as other public schools throughout the nation would be severely impacted by an estimated \$2 billion loss from just three programs alone—Title I grants, IDEA special education state grants and Head Start—that serve a combined 30.7 million children; and
- WHEREAS, federal funding for K-12 programs was already reduced by more than \$835 million in Fiscal Year 2011, and state and local funding for education continues to be impacted by budget cuts and lower property tax revenues; and
- WHEREAS, states and local governments have very limited capacity to absorb further budget cuts from sequestration as Edenton-Chowan Schools has already implemented cuts commensurate to state and local budget conditions:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education urges Congress and the Administration to amend both the Budget Control Act of 2011 and the American Tax Payer Relief Act to mitigate the drastic cuts to education that would affect our students and communities, and to protect education as an investment critical to economic stability and American competitiveness.

By a majority vote of the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education, this resolution was adopted this 24th day of the month of January in the year 2013.

Chair, Edenton-Chowan Board of Education

Secretary, Edenton-Chowan Board of Education