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**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

May 16, 2017

Trevor Tucker  
Chairman  
District 4

The Honorable Rick Scott  
Governor of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 s. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0001

Janet McDonald  
Vice Chairman  
District 2

Re: HB 7069

Dr. Maria P. Barbosa  
Board Member  
District 5

Dear Governor Scott,

Andy Dance  
Board Member  
District 1

On behalf of the citizens of Flagler County, we respectfully implore you to veto House Bill 7069. While there are several provisions in the bill that we support, the ramifications as a whole would be detrimental to Flagler Schools.

Colleen Conklin  
Board Member  
District 3

Flagler is disappointed in the process that resulted in HB 7069. Such changes in public education policy call for open dialogue. The architects of HB 7069 added bills to this so-called "train" that had been discounted by sub-committees due to lack of support. Legislators also added other bills that have nothing to do with budget and do not belong in a budget conforming bill, which is what HB 7069 purports to be. Through the process they took in crafting and passing HB 7069, our legislators did not follow the basic tenets we teach our students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade Civics. We believe legislators are setting a dangerous precedent that will haunt Florida's public schools for years.

Student School Board Member  
Brittany Franklin  
Flagler Palm Coast H.S.

Student School Board Member  
Kobi Kane  
Matanzas H.S.

Teacher of the Year  
Andrew Hutcheson  
Matanzas High School

Employee of the Year  
Brandon Seminara  
Flagler County Youth Center

The provisions of biggest concern to Flagler Schools are as follows:

- Although we only have two charter schools in Flagler County, sharing our Capital Outlay funding with them would adversely affect us. With HB 7069, charter schools will not have to demonstrate the need for this funding, as does the district through the FISH report. They will receive funds based solely on their student enrollment and will be able to spend these dollars on digital instruction software and operating systems, license fees, and even personnel annual leave payouts. Capital dollars should be used to build and renovate taxpayer-owned buildings. Supporting charter schools' capital needs should not come at the expense of traditional public schools.

Jacob Oliva  
Superintendent

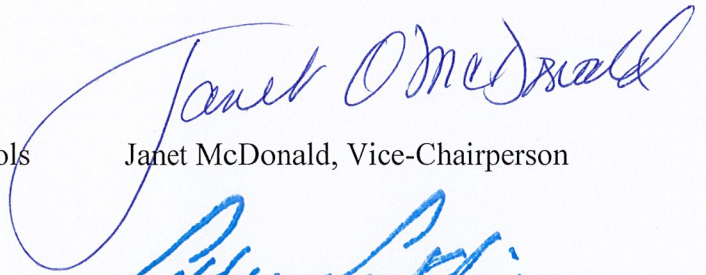
- We squeeze every cent out of Title I to support students. That support is coordinated at the district level to supply personnel who work across multiple schools to provide training and support to teachers and students. HB 7069 redirects Title I funding to schools that in essence would be acting as individual Local Education Agencies. By eliminating district-wide strategic coordination over federal Title I funding, Flagler students will be short-changed.
- On the surface, two provisions of HB 7069 sound commendable, The Best and Brightest Scholarship Program and Schools of Hope. We applaud the effort to reward high performing teachers and principals, but the \$375 million dollars allocated to support these initiatives should be redirected to restore the reduction to the base student allocation.

The School Board of Flagler County supports your veto of House Bill 7069.

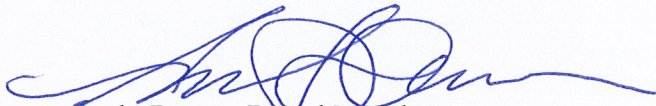
Respectfully Submitted,



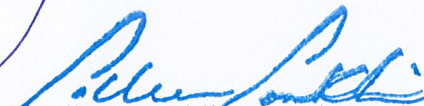
Trevor Tucker, Chairman of Flagler County Schools



Janet McDonald, Vice-Chairperson



Andy Dance, Board Member



Colleen Conklin, Board Member



Dr. Maria Barbosa, Board Member