CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS COUNTY OF RAMSEY STATE OF MINNESOTA

RESOLUTION NO. 17-10- 207

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PROPOSED WHITE BEAR LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT #624 OPERATING LEVY REFERENDUM

WHEREAS, there are almost 8,600 K-12 students who are enrolled in the White Bear Lake School District of which 1,135 are Vadnais Heights residents; and

WHEREAS, the operating levy approved by voters in 2011 is expiring after next year, and the White Bear Area School Board is requesting voters renew the current operating levy; which will not result in a property tax increase; and

WHEREAS, 99% of the school districts in Minnesota have some level of local operating levy support from school district residents; and

WHEREAS, the local operating levy approved by voters in 2011 has allowed the district to offer innovative programs that provide individual advancement and support for students; expanded district-wide world language, orchestra, and gifted program offerings; 42 college credit courses for our high school students that save approximately \$1.9 million annually on college tuition; and career pathways programs available to our high school students in the areas of manufacturing, construction, information technology, and healthcare; and

WHEREAS, failure to renew the levy will result in a \$14.2 million reduction in annual revenue, which would result in the elimination of programs and teaching positions which would result in increased class sizes; and

WHEREAS, a successful local operating levy renewal will not increase taxes; and

WHEREAS, White Bear Area Schools continues to be a good steward of the community's investment, receiving a AA bond rating from Standard & Poor's and excellence in financial reporting awards from both the Association of School Business Officials and Government Finance Officers Association for 17 consecutive years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS that the City of Vadnais Heights strongly supports the operating levy renewal referendum proposed by the White Bear Lake School Board to be voted on by residents in the 2017 election on November 7, 2017.

This Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted and was signed by the Mayor and attested to by the City Administrator this 18th day of October, 2017.

Attest:

Bob Fletcher, Mayor

Kevin Watson, City Administrator

(SEAL)