

**Resolution that the 34<sup>th</sup> District Democrats Support the Westwood Neighborhood Council and School Staff in seeking to participate in a authentic public process for all stakeholders**

**WHEREAS**, the voters approved a new Denny Middle School and renovation of Chief Sealth High School and instead are getting a project where there has been no vision or authentic planning that appears to have been conceived as a money saving move that leaves equity and involvement of the stakeholders out of the equation; and

**WHEREAS**, the staff of Chief Sealth High School, parents and Westwood neighbors have requested several times for the Seattle Public Schools (SPS) to address the academic benefits for our students in the decision to co-locate the campuses and received no adequate response, and;

**WHEREAS**, the plan that followed for combining the two schools on one campus has never included an authentic open process for all the stakeholders to become informed and to provide input, even though community involvement is mandated in any process of SPS; and

**WHEREAS**, The Westwood Neighborhood Council has been very cooperative with Seattle Schools on this issue. They have organized several public meetings and have offered time and again to assist Schools in having authentic public meetings to get the community input; and

**WHEREAS**, SPS Administratiive staff have admitted that there was not an adequate effort to notify all the stakeholders and involve them in the process; and

**WHEREAS**, Concerns of parents and staff regarding the safety of mixing the age groups have not been adequately addressed; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the paramount duty of the State is to provide for common education of all residents of the State and the Denny Sealth Capital Project represents a significant programmatic change with decades long consequences to one of the most needy educational communities in the State; and

**WHEREAS**, The plan would alter or destroy work already done at Sealth under Building Excellence (BEX) II and Buildings, Technology and Academics (BTA).

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the 34<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats call on the Seattle School Board and District Administration to direct Building Excellence (BEX) III/Facilities to provide an option for rebuilding Denny at the current Denny site and completing the required upgrades in order to meet code for Chief Sealth; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 34<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats request that the SPS establish a genuine process, consistent with public engagement requirements for community, students and staff input for the construction and renovation project.; and

48  
49 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 34<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats call on the Office of  
50 the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) work with the Westwood Neighborhood Council,  
51 parents and School staff to ensure that all provisions of WAC 392 341-346 ( State assistance in  
52 providing school plant facilities) and any other provisions requiring public comment are complied  
53 with; and

54  
55 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 34<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats will support the  
56 Westwood Neighborhood Council, the Seattle Education Association, parents and students by  
57 attending public meetings, contacting School Board members, and receiving updates from the  
58 supporters of this Resolution.

59  
60  
61  
62 Submitted to the membership of the 34<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats for consideration on  
63 February 13 by Susan Harmon, Pablo Lambinico, and Maria Ramirez.

64  
65  
66 **Attachments, summary sheets and references (optional)**

67  
68 The attachment is the resolution from the SEA.

69  
70 <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=392>