Board Resolution Regarding Distance Learning

WHEREAS, Governor Mike DeWine has declared a state of emergency in Ohio, and the Governor and the Director of the Ohio Department of Health have closed all Ohio schools to students from March 16, 2020, until at least May 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Governor DeWine and the Ohio Department of Education have stated that schools should work to provide education through alternative means during the period of extended school closure; and

WHEREAS, Section 15 of Ohio House Bill 197, signed into law by Governor DeWine on March 27, 2020, permits a board of education to adopt a plan for distance learning for students during the school shutdown, even if it had not adopted one previously pursuant to Revised Code § 3313.482; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Department of Education guidance indicates that schools may use "blizzard bags" during this extended school closure, beyond the normal three days;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Ohio House Bill 197, Section 15, the Board hereby approves the provision of distance learning retroactive to March 16, 2020, and continuing through the period of extended school closure due to COVID-19.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board ratifies and authorizes the Superintendent's development and implementation of a plan of distance learning, as set forth in Exhibit A, to enable and require students of the district to access and complete classroom lessons in order to make up hours because of the closing of schools in compliance with orders of the Governor, Director of the Ohio Department of Health, a local board of health, and/or an extension of such an order due to the COVID-19 pandemic.