

RESOLUTION #2 – COLLABORATIVE EDUCATIONAL CLIMATE

WHEREAS, the first public elementary school in Eau Claire was built in 1856, and the Eau Claire Area School District (ECASD) became united in July 1889; and

WHEREAS, Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC) was established in 1912 as part of the public school system and became one of sixteen colleges organized as Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) in 1968; and

WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (UWEC) began its existence in September of 1916 as the State Normal School, later the Eau Claire State Teachers College (1927-1951), Wisconsin State College at Eau Claire (1951-1964), Wisconsin State University-Eau Claire (1964-1971), and now UWEC (1971-Present); and

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire County Voluntary Birth to 3 Program serves children ages birth to 36 months and their families. All areas of development are evaluated including: cognitive skills, physical/motor development, speech and language development, social and emotional development and adaptive skills; and

WHEREAS, the ECASD Early Learning Program, with district Head Start at Prairie Ridge, and 21 community partnership sites for their Eau Claire 4 Tomorrow (EC4T) program which began in 2005, where they partner with various childcare agencies and service providers/families, and are regarded as a core part of ECASD's efforts to close the achievement gap, support social/emotional needs and ensure students are ready for post-secondary success; and

WHEREAS, a strong body of research conclusively demonstrates the impact of a rich array of early learning and development initiatives on a number of key metrics used to measure PreK-16 student success, from graduation rates to student achievement, as well as positive effects on cognitive and social and emotional outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the Chippewa Valley has a long tradition of providing a high-quality public education system (PreK-16) and services for children and families from birth to the post-secondary level; and

WHEREAS, the ECASD Board of Education wishes to continuously assess the effectiveness and relevance of course work and internship experience in a way that improves outcomes and relevancy for students, and prepares students for career pathways; and

WHEREAS, The ECASD Board of Education wishes to evaluate district, technical college and university policies and practices in the recruitment and retention of high-quality educators and school leaders; and

WHEREAS, PreK-16 public institutions in Wisconsin have faced budget shortfalls over the past several decades; and

WHEREAS, the ECASD Board of Education wishes to reorganize the community's academic units to provide for closer collaboration between birth to three, school district PreK-12, and post-secondary institutions; and

WHEREAS, the ECASD Board of Education wishes to better collaborate with CVTC and UWEC as we communicate our shared needs and aspirational goals to our legislators and other stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the ECASD Board of Education wishes to convene on a regular basis a design team made up of county birth to three and Human Services personnel, CVTC personnel and board members, UWEC personnel and board members, and school district personnel and board members for the purpose of reflecting on the design of the leadership programs, performance goals, admissions criteria, curriculum, student assessment, outcomes evaluation, financial and programmatic needs, and other areas of mutual interest, to ensure that all entities are working together rather than separately in pursuance of our goals, and to provide cohesive communication to our community and region relative to public education;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Eau Claire Board of Education supports the creation of cross-public educational institution structures, programs, and flows of communication to preserve the Chippewa Valley's commitment to high quality public education.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being all of the members of the Board of Education for the Eau Claire Area School Districts, have executed this resolution this 12th day of September, 2016.

Chris Hambuch-Boyle, President

Joe Luginbill, Vice President

Charles Vue, Treasurer

Kathryn Duax, Clerk

Carolyn Barstad, Board Member

Aaron Harder, Board Member

Jennifer Fager, Board Member