

**Resolution 1718R-012****By Director Voss**

WHEREAS, The vision of Milwaukee Public Schools states, “The district and its schools will collaborate with students, families, and the community for the benefit of all”; and

WHEREAS, In September 2016, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors adopted the Eight Big Ideas operational plan; and

WHEREAS, The Eight Big Ideas operational plan includes improve organizational processes as a strategic objective in the area of effective and efficient operations with the aim for Milwaukee Public Schools to be a leader in using best practices, systems, and processes equitably and efficiently to align and maximize resources; and

WHEREAS, On February 23, 2017, the Board adopted Administrative Procedure 8.20, Uniforms and Student Dress Code; and

WHEREAS, Administrative Procedure 8.20(4)(a) states,

Permission for a school to opt-out of the uniform policy shall be granted as follows: (1) The school shall support its request to opt out of the uniform policy by producing documentation detailing 66 percent of the school community’s agreement among parents and the school governance council. (2) A written exemption letter shall be filed with the school’s Regional Superintendent, stating the reasons for its decision by April 1 of the initial implementation year and every year thereafter by January 1. The Regional Superintendent must approve the request to opt out. The decision to opt out will not be put into effect until the following school year.

and

WHEREAS, Producing documentation detailing 66 percent of the school community’s agreement consumes time and resources for schools, school leaders, school personnel, and members of the school community; and

WHEREAS, The current procedure does not provide students and families with the opportunity to be fully informed about a school’s uniform status prior to enrolling in school through early admissions; and

WHEREAS, An annual change to a school’s uniform opt-out status may result in increased costs and confusion for the school and school community’s members; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Administrative Procedure 8.20(4)(a)(2) be amended to read as follows:

A written exemption letter shall be filed with the school’s Regional Superintendent by April 1 of the initial implementation year and by January 1 every five years thereafter, unless the school’s School Engagement Council votes to file a written exemption letter sooner. The Regional Superintendent must approve the request to opt out. The decision to opt out will not be put into effect until the following school year.

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That any school-wide requests to opt out that have been approved for the 2017-18 school year be valid for five years; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That in documentation detailing the school community’s agreement for a school to opt-out of the uniform policy, the school community’s agreement or disagreement with the school’s request to opt out be calculated by considering only those community members who provide active agreement or active disagreement rather than passive agreement or passive disagreement; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Administration be directed to inform all school leaders and school communities of changes to the procedure no later than January 1, 2018.

*November 30, 2017*