

ISSAQUAH SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 992

A Resolution of the Issaquah School District No. 411, King County, Washington, to support King County Countywide Planning Policies that enable King County school districts to construct schools on land owned by the districts and generally to site new schools in a fiscally responsible manner that best serves the needs of students and communities throughout King County.

WHEREAS, it the paramount duty of the State to make ample provision for the education of all children residing within its borders; and

WHEREAS, State law grants school boards of directors exclusive authority over real property of the district and authorizes boards to purchase school sites as necessary or proper to carry out the functions of a school district; and

WHEREAS, the Issaquah School District, like many school districts in King County, serves a large geographic area and educates students residing in both the urban area and the rural area; and

WHEREAS, due to locally driven programmatic needs and development regulations, schools require a large contiguous land mass that does not contain critical areas; and

WHEREAS, the Issaquah School District owns a school site in the rural area valued at \$1.5 million that was purchased as a part of planning for future service needs; and

WHEREAS, school districts across King County face growing budget constraints; and

WHEREAS, the State of Washington does not fund the cost of acquiring school sites; and

WHEREAS, the entire cost of site acquisition is borne entirely by local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the current King County Countywide Planning Policies adopted in 1992 authorize schools to be built in the rural area and to be connected to a tightline sewer; and

WHEREAS, the current Policies enable school districts to provide for efficient and effective service area needs; and

WHEREAS, the schools constructed since the enactment of the Growth Management Act have not generated urban development in the adjacent rural area; and

WHEREAS, the proposed King County Countywide Planning Policies will restrict the ability of school districts to provide K-12 educational services in King County and will increase the costs to the taxpayers for public education; and

WHEREAS, the Countywide Planning Policies should enable districts to construct schools on land owned by the districts and generally to site new schools in a fiscally responsible manner that best serves the needs of students and communities in the Issaquah School District and throughout King County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Issaquah School District supports the existing King County Countywide Planning Policies regarding public school siting as fiscally prudent and promoting the interests of students, communities, and the taxpayers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Issaquah School District urges the King County Growth Management Planning Council to maintain the existing King County Countywide Planning Policies that authorize schools to be built in the rural area and, as necessary to protect basic health, safety and the environment, to connect to public sewer via a tightline.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Issaquah School District No. 411, King County, Washington, at a regular meeting thereof held this ___ day of _____ 2011.

ISSAQUAH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 411, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

President

Director

Director

Director

Director

ATTEST:

Secretary, Board of Directors

Date