FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION #2020-18

IN SUPPORT OF SECURING A GRANT TO CONVERT HUNTERDON COUNTY POLYTECH TO A FULL TIME CAREER AND TECHNICAL SCHOOL

WHEREAS, according to a 2017 statewide needs assessment, New Jersey is not positioned to have students prepared to meet the future workforce needs of business; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Legislature recognized the emerging crisis and passed bond act legislation, which was subsequently passed by New Jersey voters, to generate funds for career and technical institutions of education to address this issue; and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County is the last county in the state to transition its CTE school from a shared-time school to a full-time 4 year school; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of a full-time CTE school are numerous and include: the ability for students to take more career-based courses and earn industry-based credentials, expanded opportunities for work experiences such as internships and pre-apprenticeships, increased opportunities for special populations such as special education students and English language learners, as well the elimination of the cost of students currently crossing county lines to attend full-time programs, at approximately \$4,000 per student; and

WHEREAS, the Securing Your Children's Future Bond Act provides \$250 million for county CTE schools, with four awards for up to \$40 million, and the remaining \$90 million allocated for smaller projects, with an agreement from the county to match the funds at 25%; and

WHEREAS, the Hunterdon County Vocational School District (HCVSD) is proposing to apply for a grant in order to construct a \$50 million CTE school on the campus of one of its sending districts to open in September 2022; and

WHEREAS, the HCVSD proposes to subcontract with that sending district for the students to take academic courses in an existing building, and move all CTE programs currently housed at the Bartles campus, which is rented, to the new campus; and

WHEREAS, the HCVSD proposes the addition of Welding Technology, Advanced Manufacturing, Global Logistics & Supply Chain Management, Aviation and Drone Technology, HVAC/Plumbing, Electrical Technology, and Diesel Technology to its current course offerings in the new building; and

WHEREAS, the HCVSD proposal allows for a partnership with Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) to increase dual credit agreements that allow students the opportunity to earn college credit while in high school; and

WHEREAS, with the construction of the new building, the possibility exists to allow RVCC to use the new campus in the evenings as a satellite site; and

WHEREAS, HCVSD has demonstrated success in educating workforce ready employees as well as a commitment to Hunterdon County's economic development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Committee of the Township of Franklin, along with the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce and the New Jersey Business and Industry Association, support Hunterdon County Vocational School District's grant application.

ADOPTED: 02/13/2020

Philip Koury, Mayor (Township Committee

Attest and Affix Seal:

Christine J. Burke, RMC

Municipal Clerk

I, Christine J. Burke, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Franklin, County of Hunterdon, do hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee at a meeting held on February 13, 2020.

Christine Burke, RMC

Municipal Clerk