

**A RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING BALDWIN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
AND THE RENEWAL OF ALL EXISTING FUNDING**

WHEREAS, the public schools of Baldwin County have earned a reputation for excellence in education;

WHEREAS, the continuing pursuit of excellence in education is essential to the long-term vitality and economic prosperity of Baldwin County;

WHEREAS, outstanding public schools can continue to exist only if there is adequate funding in place to provide the essential educational resources and qualified personnel needed to educate the children of Baldwin County;

WHEREAS, the Gulf Shores City Council has determined that the renewal of the expiring four (4) mills on the March 1, 2016 primary election ballot is critical to the continued funding of existing essential operations, however, this renewal will not address the short or long-term capital needs dictated by the continued success and growth occurring in Baldwin County;

WHEREAS, over the last ten (10) years there has been a 25% growth in the student population in Baldwin County, that is over 6,158 additional students;

WHEREAS, conservative projections show that Baldwin County schools can reasonably anticipate additional growth in the next ten (10) years, resulting in a county-wide student population of approximately 35,897, compared to 24,485 in 2004;

WHEREAS, Baldwin County's economic development efforts and its ability to attract and keep high quality employers is directly linked to enabling our public schools to continue producing outstanding students who will constitute the future workforce of tomorrow and quality schools promote the outstanding quality of life and strong communities currently enjoyed within Baldwin County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GULF SHORES, ALABAMA, WHILE IN REGULAR SESSION ON FEBRUARY 22, 2016, as follows:

Section 1. That the Gulf Shores City Council supports the renewal of the expiring four (4) mills to ensure Baldwin County Public Schools will continue to receive all existing funding to maintain its reputation for excellence in education, which is essential to the long-term vitality and economic prosperity of Baldwin County; and

Section 2. That the renewal of this existing funding will enable Baldwin County Public Schools to avoid a catastrophic cut in essential operational funding of approximately \$16,000,000.00 per year.

Section 3. That in 2014, the Gulf Shores City Council adopted our Vision 2025 for Sustainability Plan and a Strategic Plan 2015 – 2019 which provides for the implementation of the Vision including partnerships that propose to build a first-rate academic campus. The campus will feature a leading edge design incorporating the latest technology into a new high school and a new additional Faulkner State Community College location incorporating a powerful dual-enrollment model proven to promote access to higher education complete with on-campus housing and student life activities. This innovative campus will encourage affiliations with four-year universities to complete the higher education model by offering Bachelor’s and Master’s Programs; and

Section 4. The Mayor and City Council strongly encourage citizens of Gulf Shores and all of Baldwin County to vote in favor of renewing the expiring four (4) mills of existing funding so we may continue to ensure Baldwin County has quality schools which enable us to promote the outstanding quality of life and strong communities currently enjoyed throughout all of Baldwin County.

Section 5. That this Resolution shall become effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this 22nd day of February, 2016.

Robert Craft, Mayor

ATTEST:

Wanda Parris, MMC
City Clerk

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Wanda Parris, MMC, City Clerk of the City of Gulf Shores, Alabama, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. (prepared by City Clerk), which Resolution was duly and legally adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council on February 22, 2016.

City Clerk