

**Brownsburg Community School Corporation
Red for Ed Statement
November 18, 2019**

Tomorrow, fifteen Brownsburg Community School Corporation teacher leaders will be joining over 12,000 Indiana educators and their supporters at the Red for Ed rally at the Indiana Statehouse. The rally is being held to draw attention to key issues impacting Indiana school children and the educators who teach those students each day.

With nearly half of Indiana's schools expected to close tomorrow, there have been questions about what will be happening in our schools. Our schools will be open and ready to teach students. The fifteen teachers attending the rally will have the full support of those who remain in our schools educating our children. Many of those teachers, administrators and support staff will be wearing red to demonstrate support of their fellow educators.

The primary issues driving this important rally deal with teacher compensation, the over reliance on standardized assessments to evaluate teachers and school corporations and unrealistic, disconnected requirements for teachers to maintain their teaching credentials. We believe the issues being addressed by Indiana educators are so important, the Brownsburg Community School Corporation Board of Trustees passed this statement of support at the November 11 School Board meeting:

WHEREAS, teachers are the profession that trains all others, and are important to the quality of life in our community;

WHEREAS, Indiana ranks last in teacher salary raises over the last 15 years;

WHEREAS, Brownsburg Community School Corporation is Brownsburg's largest employer with 565 teachers showing up every day to make a difference in the lives of our community's children;

RESOLVED, The Brownsburg Community School Corporation Board of School Trustees supports our teachers as they call for statewide action to improve public education resources and teacher pay through the #RedForEd movement.

It is important to note that teachers and supporters of public education have repeatedly tried other approaches with our political leaders; however, those efforts have led to responses that seem well and good on the surface, but fail to have a significant impact. For example, in May Governor Holcomb appointed the Next Level Teacher Compensation Committee. Of the seven members of the committee, NONE were teachers and most of the committee members earn more in a year than most teachers make in their careers. In 2019, the Indiana State legislature increased the Teacher Appreciation Grant to \$37.5 million, in an effort to demonstrate their commitment to teachers. Unfortunately, the true impact of that grant is that an effective Brownsburg teacher receives less than \$2 more per school day.

In Brownsburg, teachers, school board members, support staff and administrators are all on the same team and supportive of this movement in an effort to draw attention to these issues and encourage immediate steps to remedy these significant shortcomings. It is important to note that at some future date, it might become essential to close schools to allow all BCSC educators the opportunity to be heard and recognized on the steps of the Statehouse. When that time comes, we will be prepared to stand with our colleagues in support.