

RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS** schools have a profound responsibility to ensure that our nation's 50 million students are college ready, career ready and life ready; and
- WHEREAS** standardized test scores, which have traditionally been used as the sole indicator of college and career readiness, fail to portray a comprehensive picture of student potential; and
- WHEREAS** elementary and middle school students are engaged in a world that was hard to imagine a decade ago and need to be prepared with 21st century skills to participate in a future that they will help create; and
- WHEREAS** according to ACT, out of 1.9 million test takers, only 40 percent of the 2015 high school graduating class across the United States was deemed college ready by meeting three or four of the ACT College Readiness Benchmarks and only 41.9 percent of the class of 2015 met the SAT College and Career Readiness Benchmark; and
- WHEREAS** in Urbana School District #116, only 40 percent of the Class of 2014 met the college readiness benchmark as defined by the Illinois Report Card (a combined score of 21 on the ACT); and
- WHEREAS** a broader multi-measure approach indicates that 55 percent of these Urbana School District #116 graduates are ready for college-level coursework and 91percent of seniors intend to go on to college and many more demonstrate success in the work force; and
- WHEREAS** the existing one-score-fits-all approach is unfair to 21st century students; and
- WHEREAS** AASA – the School Superintendents Association launched a national campaign called *Redefining Ready!* which proposes new research-based metrics and indicators to more authentically and appropriately assess and demonstrate high school graduates' readiness to survive and thrive in their futures; and
- WHEREAS** the new readiness indicators reflect and give credibility to many of Urbana School District #116's successful programs like the 18 Advanced Placement courses, the Early College and Career Academy, Dual Credit Courses with Parkland, Summer Youth Employment, Workplace Internships, and many others.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education and Urbana School District #116 adopt the framework of multiple readiness indicators proposed in the *Redefining Ready!* campaign to more accurately assess students' readiness to succeed in college, career and life.

Adopted this [#] day of [MONTH], 2016.

Mr. John Dimit, Board President

Ms. Benita Rollins-Gay, Board Vice President

