

NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION
REGARDING PAT MCPHERSON

WHEREAS the State Board of Education deplores racism in all forms and expects respect and civility be shown to all people including the President of the United States; and

WHEREAS there are several reports of racist, demeaning and derogatory comments posted on a blog titled, *Objective Conservative*, since 2011; and

WHEREAS the State Board of Education understands that the blog was founded and co-edited by State Board Member Pat McPherson; and

WHEREAS State Board of Education members and Nebraska Department of Education staff have received numerous contacts from the news media and telephone calls, emails, and other contacts from the public sector, expressing abhorrence for the comments and opposition to Mr. McPherson's presence on the State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS continued focus on this issue is a distraction from the work and mission of the State Board of Education and the Nebraska Department of Education; and

WHEREAS the State Board believes that this storm of attention and outrage, which appears likely to continue, will hinder the efforts of the State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education to move forward to address pressing educational issues on behalf of Nebraska students; and


WHEREAS the State Board of Education has received many expressions of no confidence in the ability of Pat McPherson to effectively serve all of Nebraska's children;

WHEREAS Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts; U.S. Senator Deb Fischer; U.S. Senator Ben Sasse; elected officials; local and statewide organizations; news media throughout Nebraska; social-media outlets and individual citizens from Nebraska have publicly called for Mr. McPherson's resignation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education joins Nebraska Governor Ricketts, U.S. Senator Fischer, U.S. Senator Sasse, among others, to call on State Board Member Pat McPherson to resign his position on the State Board of Education.

This resolution shall be effective the date of its adoption and shall remain in effect through December 31, 2018.

On behalf of the State Board of Education this 28th day of January, 2015.



Rachel Wise, President



Lillie Larsen, Vice President