



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Resolution
In Support of Raising the
Compulsory School Age

Whereas, Pennsylvania's minimum age to exit school – 17 years old – was established in 1949; and

Whereas, Expectations for education and training have shifted dramatically in the decades since the state's minimum age to exit school was established; and

Whereas, Each year, more than 13,800 Pennsylvania students leave school without earning a high school diploma and, in 2016-17, approximately 4,400 students dropped out of school at age 17 before graduation; and

Whereas, Students dropping out before finishing high school leads to lost economic opportunity and puts Pennsylvania further behind in meeting current and future workforce demands in the 21st century, knowledge-based economy; now therefore be it

Resolved: That the members of the State Board of Education support raising the drop out age from 17 years old to 18 years old.

Given under my hand and our seal
this 8th day of May 2019


Karen Farmer White
Chair

