

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
April 28, 2014**

RESOLUTION 3145

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: APPROVE RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A2930/S1987 CAPS BILL

WHEREAS, In February 2011, the Commissioner of Education adopted regulations imposing a cap on the salaries of chief school administrators based on the enrollment of the district in which the administrator serves; and

WHEREAS, The cap on superintendent salaries is unnecessary since the 2 percent property tax levy cap, the statutory limitation on administrative spending growth, regulations adopted pursuant to the School District Accountability Act, and Executive County Superintendent review of employment contracts protect the public's and taxpayers' interests by providing sufficient controls on superintendent compensation; and

WHEREAS, One of the most important responsibilities of a board of education is the hiring of a highly-qualified chief school administrator, who is critical in implementing the educational goals, vision and direction of the community; and

WHEREAS, The salary cap has a negative impact on the quality, stability and continuity of public education in school districts due to high turnover rates, increased use of interim superintendents, and a decline in the experience level of candidates for superintendent positions; and

WHEREAS, For many educators, becoming a superintendent represents the pinnacle of a lifelong ascent up the career ladder, yet the salary cap – which applies to no other positions – has created a disincentive for school leaders to strive toward that goal, which will have long-term negative consequences on educational quality in this State; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 2930, co-sponsored by Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan and Assemblywoman Mila Jasey, and Senate Bill No. 1987, sponsored by Senator M. Teresa Ruiz, would prohibit the Department of Education from regulating the maximum salary a school district may pay its superintendent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the School District of South Orange and Maplewood supports and urges the passage of Assembly Bill No. 2930 and Senate Bill No. 1987; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to each member of the 27th legislative district delegation, the Speaker of the General Assembly, the President of the State Senate, the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the Chairs of the Assembly and Senate Education Committees, the New Jersey School Boards Association, and the Garden State Coalition of Schools.