

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the success of Austin's primary and secondary schools is critical to the long-term prosperity of the entire Austin community;

WHEREAS, the "Imagine Austin" vision statement, adopted by the Austin City Council on August 26, 2010, states: "Neighborhood schools and libraries serve as centers for community collaboration, recreational, and social events, as well as learning opportunities.";

WHEREAS, the stability of successful primary and secondary schools in the central city is of particular importance to the planning goals of the City of Austin, which prioritize sustainable growth in the urban core over suburban sprawl;

WHEREAS, due to decreasing property tax revenue, state budget cuts, and other factors, the Austin Independent School District (AISD), which educates more than 86,000 students in Austin, is currently projecting a budget deficit of at least \$94.4 million for the 2011-2012 fiscal year;

WHEREAS, to help address the budget shortfall, the AISD Board of Trustees has already voted to eliminate 485 district jobs; and

WHEREAS, The AISD Superintendent and Board of Trustees will soon consider a report from the AISD Facility Master Plan Task Force that will guide the development of a 10-year master plan for AISD facilities, which could potentially include the closure or repurposing of primary and secondary schools in the central city; **NOW THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The Austin City Council directs the City Manager to enter into discussions with the Austin Independent School District (AISD) to identify potential operational efficiencies and partnership opportunities to help ensure the success of AISD primary and secondary schools citywide, and to make a recommendation to the Austin City Council.

The Austin City Council further directs the City Manager to work in partnership with AISD to help develop demographic information to guide future planning efforts.

ADOPTED: _____, 2011 **ATTEST:** _____
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk