

ALTERNATIVE SCHEDULES AND MAXIMIZED USE OF FACILITIES

WHEREAS, The number of students enrolled in Utah schools increased approximately 24% from 1980 to 1987; and

WHEREAS, Public school enrollments are expected to continue to increase steadily, although less dramatically, through the mid-1990s; and

WHEREAS, The state has 250 school age children per 1000 population, a ratio considerably higher than the national average of 165 students per 1000 population; and

WHEREAS, Some districts in Utah have little choice but to develop plans for more efficient building utilization, and to explore alternative scheduling; and

WHEREAS, Some data indicates that student achievement improves in settings where year-round schedules have been coupled with instructional modifications; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Utah PTA recognize that alternative schedules may serve as viable scholastic and economic alternatives in helping to solve public education problems in high-growth areas; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA encourage the Legislature to provide the necessary funding for schools to explore the options of alternative schedules and to plan, prepare, and implement alternative schedules; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA encourage districts to include students, parents, staff, administrators, and community and business leaders in any process which may result in the implementation of alternative schedules; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA urge districts not to allow alternative scheduling to increase problems of over-crowding and large class size and that they discourage minutes being added onto alternative schedule school days which try to make up days that are lost because of alternative scheduling.