Humboldt County Board of Education and

Humboldt County Superintendent of Schools

SUPPORT FOR STATE SCHOOL BOND

- WHEREAS, the California Constitution finds public education is a state responsibility in Article IX Section 5; and
- WHEREAS, Article 1 Section 28 states that public schools shall be safe, secure and peaceful; and
- WHEREAS, county offices of education are a critical part of the education infrastructure, serving a diverse population of students that typically require specialized facilities, smaller classes, and additional support services; and
- WHEREAS, the state has previously met its constitutional responsibilities through the state funding match of the School Facility Program contained in Division 1, Part 10, Article 12.5 of the Education Code; and
- WHEREAS, the California unemployment rate is greater than the national unemployment rate; and
- WHEREAS, the School Facility Program, if funded with state school bonds, provides for career technical education facilities to provide career technical job training to meet the trained workforce needs of California's employers; and
- WHEREAS, the School Facility Program is out of funds and cannot provide the state match for almost \$2 billion in projects filed under current law; and
- WHEREAS, 13,000 middle class jobs are created for each \$1 billion in school facility infrastructure investment; and
- WHEREAS, these jobs include almost all building trades and the jobs will be in all parts of California; and
- WHEREAS, the new Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) are intended to improve education achievement for all students but do not include facilities proven to help ensure academic success; and
- **WHEREAS**, all students, including those served by county offices of education, deserve equal access to 21st Century learning environments; and
- WHEREAS, academic goals cannot be achieved without 21st Century learning environments, and all students, including those served by county offices of education, deserve access to such facilities; and
- WHEREAS, the State has played an important role in helping school districts to construct and modernize their facilities and make progress toward 21st Century learning environments, with county offices of education receiving over \$1 billion in funds under the School Facility Program; and
- WHEREAS, county offices of education do not have the authority to issue local bonds and often lack local resources for facilities funding; and
- WHEREAS, state school bonds do not raise state taxes;

THEREFORE, the Humboldt County Board of Education and Humboldt County Superintendent of Schools find and declare support for placing a new state school bond on the 2016 ballot to allow the citizens the opportunity to decide if the state partnership should be funded through a new state school bond.

Adopted this 11th day of March 2015.

Mary G. Scott, President

Humboldt County Board of Education

Garry T. Eagles, Ph.D.

Humboldt County Superintendent of Schools