

State of Michigan
State Board of Education

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SCHOOL-BASED AND
SCHOOL-LINKED HEALTH CENTERS**

WHEREAS, physical and emotional well being is a critical precursor to learning; and

WHEREAS, primary care, education, and preventative measures provided by School-Based and School-Linked Health Centers can promote such well being; and

WHEREAS, in 2000 alone, these adolescent health centers served 20,313 youth during 54,844 visits and provided more than 76,000 services to children in need of quality health care during the visits; and

WHEREAS, many at-risk students do not have convenient access to medical and psychological care, and as a result, may not get needed services; and

WHEREAS, children served by School-Based and School-Linked Health Centers show improved rates of school attendance, improved scores on standardized tests, less absenteeism due to illness, increased immunization rates, and generally feel safer and supported while attending school; and

WHEREAS, schools that are served by School-Based and School-Linked Health Centers have student populations with lower rates of substance abuse problems, lower instances of school violence, and fewer teen pregnancies and cases of sexually transmitted diseases; and

WHEREAS, families that are provided services by School-Based and School-Linked Health Centers in their community visit emergency rooms less and have lower work absenteeism because of the on-site health services readily available to their children; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education has adopted substantive policies for Michigan schools that address the importance of coordinated efforts that facilitate child well being, including safe schools, family involvement, character, and creating effective learning environments; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education urges continuation of School-Based and School-Linked Health Centers; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education encourages that all funding options be explored by the Healthy Schools Network including federal, state, local, and private resources; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education urges all Michigan schools to ensure access to appropriate learning-related health support.

Kathleen N. Straus, President

Adopted January 10, 2002

Thomas D. Watkins, Jr., Chairman

