

Floor Committee 12: Congregational Services C

Subject: Request for increased financial support for the 21st Century Lutheran Principal Initiative

Reference: *Book of Reports and Memorials*, p. 51

Resolution No. 01

WHEREAS 1) the Conference of Presidents (COP) has recognized the need to eliminate assigning Martin Luther College (MLC) graduates to the principal apprentice role; and

WHEREAS 2) there are currently over 20 schools with principal vacancies or interim principals; and

WHEREAS 3) the principal vacancy rate is projected to grow as current principals retire; and

WHEREAS 4) the Commission on Lutheran Schools (CLS) and MLC have developed a process to recruit and prepare experienced teachers to serve as principals through the 21st-Century Lutheran Principal Initiative; and

WHEREAS 5) the 21st-Century Lutheran Principal Initiative will graduate its first class of principal candidates in 2020 and has two more principal cohorts in place with scheduled graduations in 2021 and 2022; and

WHEREAS 6) recent research reveals that common levels of administrative release time, training, and compensation hinder the abilities of principals to lead their schools, contribute to principal attrition, and hinder the recruitment of new principals; and

WHEREAS 7) full principal training involves Leadership Candidate Training through the Commission on Lutheran Schools and study for a Master's degree in Educational Administration through Martin Luther College; and

WHEREAS 8) principal training involves a significant amount of time and money on the part of candidates; and

WHEREAS 9) the cost for training should represent a shared investment by candidates and the synod; and

WHEREAS 10) a lack of funding of scholarships for cohort candidates has negatively impacted MLC's budget by \$21,000; and

WHEREAS 11) the 2017 Synod Convention resolved to ask the Synodical Council and the Board for Ministerial Education to prioritize the funding needed to encourage and support WELS teachers to join a 21st Century Lutheran Principal cohort; therefore be it

Resolved, a) that the Synodical Council and the Board for Ministerial Education give increased prioritization to the funding needed to encourage and enable WELS teachers to join a 21st Century Lutheran Principal cohort; and be it further

Resolved, b) that congregations be encouraged to publicize the 21st-Century Lutheran Principal Initiative at Martin Luther College to encourage WELS teachers to join a 21st-Century Lutheran Principal cohort; and be it finally

Resolved, c) that individuals and congregations be encouraged to give gifts to the 21st-Century Lutheran Principal Initiative at Martin Luther College in order to provide greater funding to this worthy program.

Teacher Jim Henrickson, chairman
Teacher Randy Peck, secretary

ADOPTED