

MARCO ANTONIO REYES  
MAYOR

TOWN OF  
**SAN LUIS,**  
ARIZONA

## Resolution

### RESOLUTION NO. 281

Whereas, the Gadsden Elementary School District has significant capital needs but lacks sufficient property tax base from which to fund those needs. While the state of Arizona provides financial assistance to fund the operating needs of the District, the state provides only a negligible amount to fund the District's capital needs. As a result, it is difficult for the District to build or repair the schools it needs, acquire the equipment necessary to support the basic curriculum and generally provide modern, well-equipped facilities in which to educate our children.

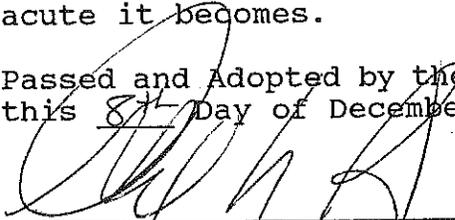
Whereas, in recognition of this problem, the Governing Board of the Gadsden Elementary School District approved an intergovernmental agreement in 1990 to support litigation challenging the state's school finance system on the grounds that it discriminates against students who live in districts with an insufficient property tax base to support basic capital needs of the District. That litigation was heard on appeal in the Arizona Supreme Court on November 5, 1993.

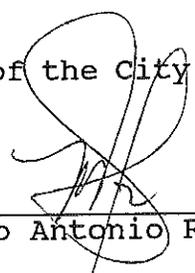
Whereas, the City of San Luis, Arizona desires to affirm its support for a fair and equitable school finance system which will provide adequate resources to all school districts in the state of Arizona to support the basic educational needs of students in those districts and ensure that the students in those districts are provided education opportunities equal to those that school districts with a greater property tax base are able to provide. There is no reason why students should be disadvantaged and provided fewer educational opportunities simply because of where they happen to live. The Gadsden Elementary School District has diligently attempted to provide those opportunities through a far greater taxing effort and denial of facilities than would otherwise be necessary if the District's tax base were higher. It is not for want of effort or desire that children in the Gadsden Elementary School District have fewer resources than in wealthier school districts but only because the state refuses to recognize its obligation under the state Constitution to provide equal educational opportunities to all students and to maintain, develop and improve all state educational institutions in Arizona.

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CITY OF SAN LUIS

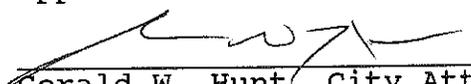
Whereas, the City of San Luis, Arizona also desires to inform its legislative representatives that this problem is of great concern to the City Council of the City of San Luis, the Governing Board of the Gadsden Elementary School District, the parents and children of the Gadsden Elementary School District, and urges its representatives to formulate a school finance system that will begin to address these pressing capital needs. Each passing year sees the gap between property rich and property poor school districts grow. The disparities are getting worse, not better, and the longer the legislature waits to address this problem, the more acute it becomes.

Passed and Adopted by the Mayor and council of the City of San Luis this 8<sup>th</sup> Day of December, 1993.

  
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Alex U. Ruiz, City Manager/Clerk

  
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Marco Antonio Reyes, Mayor

Approved as to form:

  
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Gerald W. Hunt, City Attorney