Resolution – Disapproval of Administration of Medical Marijuana on School Grounds by District Personnel

WHEREAS, in the 2016 legislative session, the Colorado legislature passed and the governor signed HB 16-1373, now codified as C.R.S § 22-1-119.3 permitting the administration of medical marijuana on school grounds, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event by a primary caregiver.

WHEREAS, in response to that statute, on December 6, 2017, the Thompson School Board of Education adopted Board Policy JLCDB, outlining permissible administration of medical marijuana for students of the District on school grounds, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event;

WHEREAS, in the 2018 legislative session, the Colorado legislature passed HB 18-1286, amending C.R.S. § 22-1-119.3 and permitting the administration of medical marijuana on school grounds, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event by “School Personnel”, which term is defined in the bill as school personnel designated by agreement between the principal or his or her designee and a parent or legal guardian;

WHEREAS, the proposed statute has been discussed with the District’s Health Services Team, which is opposed to having the District’s licensed school nurses be involved in the administration of medical marijuana as it is contrary to safe school nurse practices;

WHEREAS, marijuana is designated as a controlled substance under 21 U.S.C § 812(c).

WHEREAS, given marijuana’s designation as a controlled substance, it would be medically inappropriate for a licensed school nurse to be involved in the administration of medical marijuana, including delegating that authority to other District personnel;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Education for Thompson School District R2-J hereby disapproves of the legislative mandate authorizing “School Personnel” to be involved in the administration of medical marijuana on school grounds, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education for Thompson School District R2-J directs its staff and administration to not comply with C.R.S. § 22-1-119.3(3)(d.5) and to post on the District website a notice that the District has elected not to have District personnel involved with the administration of medical marijuana on school grounds, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event.