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## Montcross Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Director's Resolution of Support for May 8, 2018, Gaston County School Bonds and Sales Tax Referendum

**WHEREAS** the Montcross Area Chamber of Commerce is vitally interested in the highest level of educational opportunities for current and future students enrolled in Gaston County Schools;

**WHEREAS** Chamber believes that education at all levels is of paramount importance to economic and workforce development and sustainability in Gaston County;

**WHEREAS** students in Gaston County are attending a school that is more than 70 years old; many others are in overcrowded schools at are above capacity levels; and others are in school buildings that are in structural disrepair and without adequate heating and air-conditioning systems;

**WHEREAS** the Chamber acknowledges the funding needs of Gaston County Schools facilities are estimated to be \$650 million, including construction of new schools needed to accommodate a growing population, expansion of existing schools and repairs and renovations to make schools safe for students and teachers;

**WHEREAS** the Gaston County Board of Education and the Gaston County Board of Commissioners have placed on the May 8, 2018, election ballot a proposal for a \$250 million bond to build three new schools and expand, repair and improve many others; and

**WHEREAS** in a separate issue on the same ballot, voters will decide whether to support an additional quarter-cent sales tax to help pay for the school bonds;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** The Montcross Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors supports the school bond proposal and the additional quarter-cent sales tax and strongly encourages the citizens of Gaston County to vote on May 8, 2018, for the school bonds and for the additional sales tax to provide funds solely dedicated to the Gaston County Schools.

*(Resolution adopted by a vote of the Montcross Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, meeting in regular session on March 13, 2018.)*

**ATTEST:**

Carey Roberts, Board Chair

Ted Hall, President

Date