

EATING DISORDERS

- WHEREAS, Each year millions of people in the United States are affected by serious eating disorders, and
- WHEREAS, More than 90% of those affected with eating disorders are adolescents and young adults, and
- WHEREAS, Studies also indicate that two-thirds of high school students are on some form of a diet; and
- WHEREAS, Eating disorders can affect all children and youth regardless of race, sex, culture, or socioeconomic factors, and
- WHEREAS, Eating disorders are most successfully treated when diagnosed early, and
- WHEREAS, Long term complications from eating disorders can be teeth erosion, gum problems, heart disease, reproductive and hormonal abnormalities which may cause sterility and bone loss, and neurological problems, and
- WHEREAS, Early detection of warning signals can mean the difference between life and death; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, its units and councils, urge local school districts to explore ways to educate staff on the symptoms of eating disorders and to train them on the early detection signs. Specifically educate coaches and sponsors of extracurricular activities to be aware of the pressures and symptoms of eating disorders; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, its units and councils promote programs and curriculum that address eating disorders to educate our young people at an early age; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, its units and councils, educate parents through programs and by distribution of educational materials on eating disorders to help parents identify symptoms associated with eating disorders; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, its units and councils, urge school districts to evaluate their lunch programs, including supervision, length of eating time, and choices available, and to evaluate their buildings for advertising, posters, channel one commercials, etc that promotes or glamorizes unhealthy attitudes or appearances.

Adopted 2000