Chenoweth Law Office

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Robert L. Chenoweth Grant R. Chenoweth

## MEMORANDUM

TO:

Chuck Adams, Superintendent

SPENCER COUNTY SCHOOLS

FROM:

Robert L. Chenoweth

DATE:

May 31, 2012

RE:

Resolution Employing the Chenoweth Law Office

As a new fiscal and school year is nearly upon us, each board of education is advised to consider the authority granted to it in KRS 160.170 as to the hiring of a school board attorney. The CLO has been privileged to have had as "as needed" contractual relationship with your School District. We welcome the opportunity to continue in that capacity for the 2012-13 school year.

Herewith please find a proposed Resolution Employing Attorneys we invite you and the Board of Education to consider. To be readily noted is that the resolution calls for an increase in the billing rate effective at the commencement of the 2012-13 fiscal year from \$115 to \$125 per hour. There would never come into existence a "good" time to increase the hourly rate for legal services provided by this office, and I am totally mindful of the economic status of all of our school district clients. However, the cost of doing business as a law office has steadily increased as it has for all businesses, from dry cleaners to barber shops. Our billing rate has remained at \$115 per hour for the past decade, which is far below the "going rate" for attorneys with comparable experience and concentration of the practice. Even at the increased rate of \$125, it must be noted that attorneys practicing against school districts are charging from \$150 to \$250 per hour.

We desire to continue our "as needed" professional relationship with your Board of Education. We trust it will be understood that the modest increase in the hourly rate for legal services still makes for a good investment in having access to the quality of legal advice upon which we pride ourselves in providing. Trusting your Board of Education will approve the Resolution Employing Attorneys being provided, please return a copy of this Resolution as completed to this office.

If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter in greater detail, please

contact my office.

RLC:jc Enclosure