RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, as a result of both the current pandemic and the resulting economic upheaval, some number of taxpayers of the Upper Merion Area School District (the “District”) will be severely impacted by the current crisis; and

WHEREAS, the District’s Board of School Directors (the “Board”) is sympathetic to the financial hardships that those impacted will face in the coming school year; and

WHEREAS, within the constraints of fiscal responsibility entrusted to it, in order to assist those adversely impacted by the current crisis, the Board will provide greater flexibility for the payment of school taxes levied in the 2020-2021 school year by extending the discount period and eliminating any penalty for those paying in full before the end of the calendar year; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Upper Merion Area School District Board of School Directors resolves as follows:

1. Extension of the Discount Period:

   a. As required by Section 10 of Act 394 of 1945 (the “Local Tax Collection Law”), 72 P.S. §5511.10, taxpayers within the District shall have 2 months from the date of the tax notice to pay such school taxes identified in the above tax notices to the appropriate Tax Collector at a 2% discounted rate.

   b. The Board extends that discount period for the real property taxes levied in support of the District schools for the 2020-2021 school year to September 30, 2020.

2. Reduction of the Penalty Rate:

   a. Also under the above section of the Local Tax Collection Law the Board retains the power to establish the rates of penalties charged on taxes that remain unpaid more than 4 months after the date of the tax notice.

   b. Pursuant to that authority, the Board sets the penalty rate solely for the real property taxes levied in support of the District schools for the 2020-2021 school year to zero percent (0%) until January 1, 2021. Any real property taxes levied in support of the District schools for the 2020-2021 school year paid on or after January 1, 2021 shall incur the penalty rate of ten percent (10%) as in any other year.

   c. The Board encourages the elected tax collectors to add to the notice required by 72 P.S. §5511.10(b) language similar to: “By special resolution applicable to only the 2020-2021 school taxes, the above late penalty will not be imposed if you pay the applicable school taxes in full no later than December 31, 2020.”
3. This resolution’s extension of the discount period and the reduction of the penalty shall apply only to real property taxes levied in support of the District schools for the 2020-2021 school year and shall not apply to taxes levied in prior or succeeding years.

4. **Installment payments:** In light of the above change in collections for the 2020-2021 school year, the Board also resolves that the installment payment schedule previously approved by the Board is modified as follows:

   a. The installment payments as previously set shall be changed for the 2020-2021 school year only, to be due on August 31, 2020, September 31, 2020 and October 31, 2020.

   b. In succeeding years, the due date for installment payments will return to July 31, August 31 and September 30.

5. No aspect of this resolution shall apply to any taxes due to the District beyond those real property taxes levied by the Board in support of the District schools for the 2020-2021 school year, nor shall it apply to any payment deadlines, discounts or penalties imposed pursuant to 72 P.S. §5511.5a related to interim assessments.

6. The discount and penalty periods and the rate of discount and penalty applicable in the 2021-2022 school year and all succeeding years shall be such periods and rates that were in place for the taxes levied in support of the District schools for the 2019-2020 school year.

The Upper Merion Area School District Board of School Directors adopted the above resolution at their meeting of May 11, 2020 by a vote of 9 in favor and 0 against.

Attest: __________________________

Upper Merion Area School District

By: Michelle O’Reilly
Secretary

By: Dr. Gary Ledebur
President, Board of School Directors