RESOLUTION NO. 17- 08

WHEREAS, the quality of life is an important positive feature in Santa Rosa County; and

WHEREAS, the high quality of the School System is an essential element of this quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Santa Rosa County is now the sixth fastest growing county in the state; and

WHEREAS, the School System has experienced tremendous growth over the past several years and has built two schools over the past ten years, along with an additional 460,000 square feet since 2008; and

WHEREAS, the student population is ever increasing, averaging approximately 473 additional students per year over the past three years, with approximately 750 additional students projected for the 2017-18 school term, the highest number during the past eight years; and

WHEREAS, the revenue sources for capital outlay are very limited and Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) New Construction dollars from the State has ceased to exist, thus placing even more responsibility on the local School Board to raise revenue;

WHEREAS, if the school system is to maintain its high quality, it must keep pace with growth by continuing to build new facilities; and

WHEREAS, an option available to the School System is the One-Half Cent Sales Tax, a user tax that is shared equally by all the citizens, and which would generate approximately seven million dollars each year only to be used for construction, renovation and equipping of School District facilities.

NOW THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners supports the One-Half Cent Sales Tax issue and encourages all its citizens to also support this issue.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of February, 2017, by a vote of $\frac{5}{2}$ yeas, nays, and <u>D</u> absent of the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Rosa County, Florida.

> BOARD OF COUTY COMMISSIONERS SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Rob Williamson, Chairman

ATTEST:

Donald C. Spencer, Clerk of Courts