

**SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION
CONGRATULATING THE BACK TO SCHOOL SHOP ON THEIR 12TH ANNUAL
SCHOOL SUPPLY AND CLOTHING POP UP STORE**

WHEREAS, Over 50% of elementary school children in Stamford are from low-income families. Many of them return to school each year without basic clothing and school supplies, and that can undermine the confidence they need for academic success.

WHEREAS, The mission of Back To School Shop, Inc. is to provide economically disadvantaged elementary school children in the local community with brand new clothing and school supplies, to help build the confidence and enthusiasm they need for a successful start to the school year.

WHEREAS, About 450 students participated at the event this year with about 4,000 participating over the past 12 years.

WHEREAS, Over 300 volunteers assisted with setup, shopping and breakdown this year with over 3,000 volunteers assisting since 2015.

WHEREAS, The Back to School Shop event is set up like a department store. Volunteer Personal Shoppers accompany the children through all of the different "departments," and help them choose their own new items, including: a complete outfit of clothing (shirt, pants, underwear, socks and sneakers); a hoodie, a winter jacket, hat and gloves; a backpack filled with school supplies, a lunchbox, a water bottle and books. For many, this may be the first time they will have something brand new, and the first time they have been able to choose their own clothes.

WHEREAS, The approximate value of all the items each student takes home is about \$300 taking some financial pressure off the household for the start of school.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the 32nd Board of Representatives that it congratulates the Back to School Shop on its 12th annual school supply and clothing pop up store.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it congratulates all members of the Board of Directors Meryl Japha, Jane Levene, Linda Atkins, Charlesanna Ecker, Nan Gordon, Lorraine Kweskin, Debby Lione, Robin Mattice, and Nora Pilar Pelaez.

*Approved by the 32nd Board of Representatives
this 8th day of September, 2026*



Ramya Shaw, President



Parker Johnson, Clerk