

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF CHARLES A. GARDNER, HOKES BLUFF
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ETOWAH COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS ALABAMA'S
NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR**

WHEREAS, the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) sponsors a national program to honor outstanding elementary and middle school principals from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense, and U.S. territories; and

WHEREAS, Charles A. Gardner, Principal at Hokes Bluff Elementary School in the Etowah County School System, was selected as the Alabama recipient of the 2016 National Distinguished Principal for Alabama by the National Association of Elementary School Principals and the Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators; and

WHEREAS, Charles A. Gardner earned a Bachelor's of science degree from Auburn University in 1990, a Master's degree in 1992 from The University of Alabama, and an educational specialist degree from The University of Alabama in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Charles A. Gardner has served as an educator in Alabama for 26 years, 19 of those as principal; and

WHEREAS, Charles A. Gardner, as Principal of Hokes Bluff Elementary School, leads professional learning for faculty and staff prior to the beginning of each school year to provide a venue of reiteration regarding the concept that parents and community are valued stakeholders in the academic support of the children in the school; and

WHEREAS, Charles A. Gardner creates an atmosphere for parents and community members to be engaged in the sharing of responsibility by communicating and involving all stakeholders in the partnership of creating success for children; and

WHEREAS, as Principal of Hokes Bluff Elementary School, he holds monthly data meetings to determine next steps for all students and make informed decisions and measure progress for students, adults, and overall school performance; and

WHEREAS, each year, the National Association of Elementary School Principals congratulates principals from across the nation for their exemplary achievements by recognizing them in its National Distinguished Principals program; and

WHEREAS, the National Distinguished Principals program honors outstanding elementary and middle-level administrators who ensure that America's children acquire a sound foundation for lifelong learning and achievement; and

WHEREAS, the program was established in 1984 to recognize and celebrate elementary and middle-level principals who set high standards for instruction, student achievement, character and climate for the students, families, and staffs in their learning communities; and

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WHEREAS, public school elementary and middle-level principals are nominated for this achievement by peers in their state and final selections are made by committees appointed by each of the National Association of Elementary School Principals' state affiliate offices:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Charles A. Gardner upon the honor of being selected as Alabama's National Distinguished Principal of the Year.

Done this 13th day of October 2016