RESOLUTION COMMENDING NORTHRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL, TUSCALOOSA CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM, UPON BEING NAMED A 2026 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS (NAESP) NATIONAL GOLD STAR SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education is pleased to recognize and commend Northridge Middle School in the Tuscaloosa City School System upon its selection as a 2026 NAESP National Gold Star School by the National Association of Elementary School Principals; and

WHEREAS, the NAESP National Gold Star School Program recognizes outstanding elementary and middle-level schools whose learning communities collaborate to foster growth and demonstrate a commitment to continuous improvement, with schools evaluated according to three pillars of effective schools: Established Culture, Empowered People, and Optimal Systems; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Principal Jami Rainey, Northridge Middle School has cultivated an established culture grounded in respect, support, dedication, community, commitment, and excellence, with the guiding question, “What does it mean to be a Jag?” fostering a shared identity and sense of purpose among students, educators, families, and community partners; and

WHEREAS, Northridge Middle School’s commitment to character, belonging, and meaningful relationships has earned recognition as both a 2025 State School of Character and a 2025 National School of Character, while intentional family engagement, staff wellness initiatives, service opportunities, and strong community partnerships have further strengthened the school’s culture and fostered pride throughout its “Jag Family”; and

WHEREAS, Northridge Middle School empowers students and educators through personalized and collaborative teaching and learning, shared leadership, and comprehensive support systems, with teachers serving as instructional leaders and mentors while students develop their voices through student council, service learning, and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports leadership opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the school’s comprehensive Multi-Tiered System of Supports integrates academic interventions, counseling, social-emotional learning, and wraparound services, while grade-level and content teams regularly analyze student achievement, attendance, behavior, and progress-monitoring data to provide timely interventions and enrichment and to promote the continuous improvement of instruction; and

WHEREAS, Northridge Middle School has established optimal systems that maximize instructional time, staff talent, and available resources through strong teacher retention, targeted professional learning, collaboration with Tuscaloosa City Schools, purposeful evaluation of school initiatives, and a commitment to directing resources toward practices that have the greatest impact on student achievement and well-being; and

WHEREAS, Northridge Middle School’s selection as a 2026 NAESP National Gold Star School reflects the extraordinary commitment of its students, faculty, staff, families, community partners, and school leadership to creating a learning environment in which every member of the school community is supported, empowered, and positioned to thrive:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby congratulates Northridge Middle School, Principal Jami Rainey, its faculty and staff, students, families, community partners, and the Tuscaloosa City School System, upon this distinguished national recognition and expresses its appreciation for their exemplary leadership, dedication to excellence, and steadfast commitment to continuous improvement and student success.

Done this 12th day of November 2026