

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE 2025-2026  
ALABAMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR, KATIE COLLINS, BLUFF PARK  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, HOOVER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM, IN BEING  
SELECTED A FINALIST FOR NATIONAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

**WHEREAS**, the 2025-2026 Alabama Teacher of the Year, Katie Collins, a first-grade teacher at Bluff Park Elementary School, Hoover City School System, is an outstanding example of educational excellence and classroom innovation; and

**WHEREAS**, as a highly-skilled educator, Katie Collins inspires students to achieve academic goals and high standards; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) announced that from a cohort of 56 state Teachers of the Year, the National Teacher of the Year Selection Committee, comprised of 15 individuals and education organizations, has selected Katie Collins as one of the five finalists for National Teacher of the Year; and

**WHEREAS**, she has taught first grade, middle and high school French, English as a Second Language (ESL) on the elementary school level, and adult education; she believes education is a life-long journey and continues to embrace every opportunity to teach students of all ages; and

**WHEREAS**, Katie Collins has served as an educator for 21 years, and students and their families still inspire her each day. She has remained focused on developing meaningful and authentic classroom approaches to help students achieve their full potential; and

**WHEREAS**, one of her proudest professional accomplishments has been creating the *Communities Family Literacy Program*, with the support of two remarkable colleagues, in response to seeing a need for parents of pre-school students to receive ESL services within their community, this grassroots program has impacted literacy outcomes at the youngest grade levels; and

**WHEREAS**, she uses a variety of strategies to elevate student learning and masterfully coordinate classroom learning and engaging activities, she believes it is essential to provide all students with interesting real-world experiences to help them connect their personal learning to the world around them; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama Teacher of the Year, Katie Collins, believes all members of the education community and every parent have a personal responsibility to advocate for an outstanding educational experience for all K-12 and postsecondary learners; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama Teacher of the Year, Katie Collins, encourages her students to understand that academic excellence requires perseverance, she is a trailblazer for educators:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby recognize and commend Katie Collins for this accomplishment sponsored by the CCSSO, a nonpartisan nationwide, nonprofit organization of public officials who head departments of elementary and secondary education in the states, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Education Activity, Bureau of Indian Education, and five U.S. extra-state jurisdictions.

Done this 12th day of February 2026