

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MRS. ERICA CRUTHIRDS
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, FLORENCE B. MATHIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
BALDWIN COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
ALABAMA'S NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PRINCIPALS (NAESP) NATIONAL OUTSTANDING
ELEMENTARY ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

WHEREAS, the Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators (AAESA) has named Mrs. Erica Cruthirds, Assistant Principal of Florence B. Mathis Elementary School in the Baldwin County School System, as Alabama's National Outstanding Elementary Assistant Principal, an honor awarded through the NAESP; and

WHEREAS, the NAESP National Outstanding Elementary Assistant Principal Program recognizes assistant principals who demonstrate exceptional instructional leadership, professional excellence, and an unwavering commitment to improving teaching, learning, and student achievement; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Erica Cruthirds has distinguished herself through exemplary instructional leadership, a steadfast commitment to supporting teachers, and a relentless focus on improving outcomes for every student at Florence B. Mathis Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, among her many accomplishments, Mrs. Erica Cruthirds led a comprehensive initiative to reduce chronic absenteeism by strengthening communication with families, collaborating closely with teachers, and implementing innovative attendance incentives, resulting in a reduction in chronic absenteeism from 15.82 percent to 9.67 percent, a remarkable 39 percent decrease from the previous year; and

WHEREAS, these efforts contributed significantly to increasing the school's state report card score from 73 to 82, representing the largest improvement of any elementary school in Baldwin County; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Erica Cruthirds has fostered a positive, inclusive, and welcoming school culture through mentoring initiatives, staff engagement opportunities, and strong community partnerships that encourage success for both students and educators; and

WHEREAS, as an accomplished instructional leader, Mrs. Erica Cruthirds facilitates weekly Professional Learning Community meetings, leads the analysis of student achievement data, and collaborates with teachers to strengthen instructional practices that improve student learning; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Erica Cruthirds' leadership, dedication, and commitment to educational excellence have positively impacted the students, faculty, families, and community of Florence B. Mathis Elementary School, bringing great distinction to the Baldwin County School System and the state of Alabama:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby recognize and congratulate Mrs. Erica Cruthirds upon being named the Alabama recipient of the 2026 NAESP National Outstanding Elementary Assistant Principal Award and commends her for her exemplary leadership, unwavering dedication to students and educators, and significant contributions to public education in Alabama; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education expresses its sincere appreciation for Mrs. Erica Cruthirds' outstanding service and extends its best wishes for her continued success as she continues to represent the state of Alabama with distinction.

Done this 8th day of October 2026