

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING MAGNOLIA NATURE SCHOOL AT CAMP
MCDOWELL, WINSTON COUNTY, AS STATE NOMINEE FOR
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
2020 GREEN RIBBON SCHOOL AWARD**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education recognizes the importance of saving energy, reducing costs, creating environmentally sustainable learning spaces, and protecting health and fostering wellness for Alabama students; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Education recognizes those schools in the nation that are striving to achieve an energy-efficient and healthy school environment with the Green Ribbon School Award; and

WHEREAS, Magnolia Nature School at Camp McDowell has been nominated for the Green Ribbon School Award for its innovative strides to become energy independent through the use of a geothermal system, solar arrays, and a hydroelectricity system; all of which reduce traditional energy consumption; and

WHEREAS, Magnolia Nature School at Camp McDowell takes great efforts to promote water quality and conservation through the use of settling ponds and rain catchment systems and ensure student and environmental health and safety through land management, recycling, a student garden, and proper safety protocols; and

WHEREAS, Magnolia Nature School at Camp McDowell cares for all aspects of a child's physical and mental health and believes in the well evidenced benefits of being outside. Children participate in activities that encourage physical development and participate in the care of farm plants and animals; and

WHEREAS, Magnolia Nature School at Camp McDowell has an inquiry-based curriculum which focuses on exploring nature, encouraging creativity, and developing civic knowledge and skills in its students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Magnolia Nature School at Camp McDowell for its commitment to environmental awareness and education and does hereby express its congratulations to the students and educators of Magnolia Nature School at Camp McDowell.

Done this 14th day of July 2020