

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF KAITLIN MCPEAKE,
ROCKY RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, HOOVER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM,
RECIPIENT OF THE 2021-2022 MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARD**

WHEREAS, Kaitlin McPeake, a fourth-grade science and mathematics teacher at Rocky Ridge Elementary School in the Hoover City School System, is a leader in her school and the school district, where she is a mentor to student teachers; a facilitator for professional development topics, such as the National Writing Project, and workshops focusing on Google Classroom training, Pear Deck, and Kahoot; and

WHEREAS, Kaitlin McPeake received her Bachelor's Degree in 2013 and a Master's in Educational leadership in 2018 from the University of West Alabama and is a Google Certified Instructional Leader pursuing National Board Certification; and

WHEREAS, students in Kaitlin McPeake's Electrical Engineering Academy pursue real-life electrical problems that are led by parents and community members who have STEM and engineering backgrounds and uses hands-on approach to teaching that brings education to life for her students and inspires other teachers to grow as professional educators; and

WHEREAS, Kaitlin McPeake is described by colleagues as being one who creates a classroom environment that draws the best out of each of her students through the ways she challenges them to succeed, and sets high standards for students and always finds ways to make sure students overcome challenges through classroom transformation; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2022, during a surprise assembly at Rocky Ridge Elementary School, Kaitlin McPeake was awarded a \$25,000 Milken Educator Award for her excellence and innovation in education; and

WHEREAS, the Milken Educator Awards recognizes the teaching profession and gives an unrestricted financial award of \$25,000 to exceptional elementary and secondary school teachers, principals, and specialists who further excellence in the nation's schools; and

WHEREAS, Kaitlin McPeake is one of two honorees in Alabama and among more than 60 to receive the recognition during the 2021-2022 school year along with the \$25,000 financial prize awarded by the Milken Family Foundation; she joins the National Milken Educator Network that consists of more than 2,800 top teachers, principals, and specialists; and

WHEREAS, the Milken Family Foundation presented the first Milken Educator Awards in 1987 and since Alabama joined the program in 1998, 39 recipients have been awarded a total of \$975,000:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Kaitlin McPeake, Rocky Ridge Elementary School, Hoover City School System, for the honor of being selected as one of two educators in the state of Alabama to receive this prestigious award.

Done this 12th day of July 2022