

**RESOLUTION HONORING ALABAMA EDUCATOR MARY TRAVIS
DR. ROBERT W. GILLIARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MOBILE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
RECIPIENT OF THE NATIONAL MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARD**

WHEREAS, a top Mobile County School System educator, Mary Travis, an exceptional Mathematics and Science teacher at Dr. Robert W. Gilliard Elementary School, has officially been named this year's Alabama Milken Educator Award recipient; and

WHEREAS, often nationally referred to as the "Oscars of Teaching," the Milken Educator Awards work to highlight the remarkable achievements of America's best educators through the celebration of Grades K-12 education and the teaching profession; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Milken Educator Mary Travis has personally committed her career to instilling excellence in all students to ensure their potential for a lifetime of success; and

WHEREAS, Mary Travis consistently creates a dynamic learning environment at Dr. Robert W. Gilliard Elementary School conducive to remarkable student achievement; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Milken Educator Mary Travis teaches both fifth grade mathematics and science; and

WHEREAS, in her classroom she uses both a whole- and small-group instruction approach, which also utilizes current technology to encourage each student to demonstrate their individual learning skills and personal understanding of complex problem solving; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Milken Educator Mary Travis also engages her students through a personalized teaching approach focused on utilizing online lab simulations, proven science best practices, and innovative math instruction; and

WHEREAS, Mary Travis is truly a positive community ambassador for Dr. Robert W. Gilliard Elementary School and also enthusiastically serves in the vital role of being the school's well-known mascot "Gilly Gator," who brings memorable joy to the Mobile County community; and

WHEREAS, in her role as her school's lead math teacher, Alabama Milken Educator Mary Travis supervises student teachers, mentors new educators, and trains all staff members on best practices, differentiated classroom instruction, and new technology; and

WHEREAS, Mary Travis is respected by her colleagues for openly sharing strategies with those who may need additional assistance with professional development areas, learning observations, or advise on strategies to increase classroom performance; and

WHEREAS, Mary Travis has expanded her own teaching skills through various writing projects, as well as completing International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum training and spearheading IB coordination in her community while also utilizing Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) processes to further build a highly effective student-centered school culture; and

WHEREAS, Mary Travis is also an active member of her school district's math curriculum writing team and highly respected statewide; and

WHEREAS, her remarkable leadership, resourcefulness, and ability to build solid relationships has truly made her a trusted education leader in her community; and

WHEREAS, Alabama first joined the Milken Educator Awards Program in 1998 and now 42 of our state's top teachers have earned this prestigious award:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Mary Travis upon the honor of being selected as Alabama's recent recipient of the Milken Educator Award.

Done this 10th day of April 2025