RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE 2025-2026 ALABAMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND ELEMENTARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR MRS. KATIE COLLINS, BLUFF PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, HOOVER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, exemplary Alabama educator, Mrs. Katie Collins, has committed her life and career to excellence in the teaching profession; and

WHEREAS, her strength is rooted in helping all students succeed through the implementation of innovative strategies to promote authentic engagement in schools; and inspires students to achieve their full potential and families to support students' success through creative community outreach; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Katie Collins has secured over \$70,000 in grants for instructional programs and resources, including funds to support the construction of a greenhouse and other educational projects; and

WHEREAS, this year marks her 20th year in the teaching profession where she has demonstrated a remarkable ability to teach students on all grade levels, from elementary to high school, in addition to adult education programs; and

WHEREAS, she believes education is a life-long journey and continues to embrace every opportunity to teach and educate students as a National Board Certified Educator, Google Classroom Educator, and Distinguished Modern Classroom Educator; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Katie Collins believes in the transformative power of education advocates for students in her application of research-based strategies to support student achievement at higher levels; and

WHEREAS, her personal focus remains on developing meaningful and authentic classroom approaches to help students reach learning goals; and

WHEREAS, one of her proudest professional accomplishments has been creating the Communities Family Literacy Program, with the help of colleagues, to serve not only students but also families; and

WHEREAS, she has responded to the need for parents to have access to pre-school English language services within their community to transform literacy outcomes at the youngest grade-levels; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Katie Collins, is enthusiastic about creating and modeling projects to promote student independence and leadership including, but not limited to, a farmers market where first-grade students participated in growing and selling plants, recording observations in plant growth, and writing persuasively and creating videos to market plants; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Katie Collins believes every parent or guardian is important in reinforcing the importance of education to every K-12 student and postsecondary learner:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education congratulates Mrs. Katie Collins for being selected the 2025-2026 Elementary Teacher of the Year and Alabama Teacher of the Year and expresses gratitude for her dedication to K-12 excellence.

Done this 8th day of May 2025