

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 491

By Pitts

A RESOLUTION to honor Command Sergeant Major Dennis W. Floden on the occasion of his retirement from teaching.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to a true professional whose contributions to education and his community reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, Command Sergeant Major (CSM) Dennis W. Floden, U.S. Army (Retired), is taking a much deserved retirement from his position as the Senior Army Instructor at West Creek High School in Clarksville on June 30, 2017, having faithfully served the United States Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) Program in the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System (CMCSS) for more than twelve years; and

WHEREAS, his commitment to the cadets under his tutelage has been unwavering; in recognition of his service and accomplishments, the United States Army has awarded him the Commander's Award for Public Service; and

WHEREAS, from his first day on duty, he has been a valued member of the CMCSS faculty and the district's JROTC team, and he has positively shaped the thinking and futures of hundreds of cadets through his leadership, mentoring, and coaching; and

WHEREAS, after teaching in the JROTC Program at Northeast High School, CSM Floden was chosen to start a new JROTC Program at West Creek High School in 2009 and has served as Senior Army Instructor there ever since, contributing significantly to the accomplishment of the Cadet Command's mission and to the success of the program; and

WHEREAS, under his command, the West Creek JROTC Program has grown from 164 cadets to 383 cadets to become the largest program in the CMCSS and has earned the Honor Unit with Distinction Award every year since 2009; and

WHEREAS, as a result of CSM Floden's inspired leadership and instruction, West Creek is the only program in the CMCSS to have a Drill Team, Marksmanship Team, and Raider Team compete at the national level, winning the High School Drill Team National Championship Challenge level in 2007 and 2013 and the Brigade Drill Team Championship in 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 and placing fourth at the Army Nationals in 2011, 2013, 2014, and 2015; and

WHEREAS, CSM Floden fully integrated the use of Google Classroom and Digital Blended Learning into all four of the West Creek JROTC Program classrooms; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being honored as Teacher of the Year at both Northeast and West Creek high schools, CSM Floden received the Bronze Instructor Award from the United States Army Cadet Command; and

WHEREAS, he has spent countless hours supporting the school community in numerous service learning and community service projects; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor Command Sergeant Major Dennis W. Floden, U.S. Army (Retired), for his exemplary service as the Senior Army Instructor at West Creek High School, salute his many contributions to the JROTC Program, and wish him a happy and fulfilling retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.