

SENATE RESOLUTION 36

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Dr. Penny Thompson on being named 2022-2023 Tennessee Supervisor of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should pause to specially recognize those outstanding citizens who have devoted their careers to providing the highest-quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Penny Thompson is one such estimable individual, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Thompson was recently named the 2022-2023 Supervisor of the Year by the Tennessee Department of Education, a most befitting honor that recognizes the positive influence she has on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, one of nine finalists from across the State of Tennessee for this prestigious honor, Dr. Penny Thompson serves as the Pre-K Director and Instructional Coordinator for the Lebanon Special School District; and

WHEREAS, an educator since 1982, Dr. Thompson began her career as a first-grade teacher at Navasota Independent School District in Navasota, Texas; she later taught at Mt. Juliet Christian Academy for three years before joining the Lebanon Special School District in 1991; and

WHEREAS, after ten years in the classroom in Lebanon, she was named assistant principal of Byars Dowdy Elementary School in 2001 and accepted a post in the central office in 2004 in her current role as Instructional Coordinator and Pre-K Director; and

WHEREAS, a respected leader of her profession, Dr. Thompson has served on a number of advisory boards for the Tennessee Department of Education, including the Early

Literacy Advisory Task Force, the Tennessee Early Literacy Network, and the Reading 360 Literacy Advisory Council; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Thompson earned her Doctor of Philosophy degree in Literacy Studies from Middle Tennessee State University, where she currently serves on the Advisory Committee; she also serves as an adjunct professor at Cumberland University; and

WHEREAS, her many accomplishments aside, Dr. Thompson is most grateful for the love and support of her husband of thirty-nine years, David E. Thompson; daughter and son-in-law, Megan and Daniel Easterly; son, Drew Thompson; and grandsons, Ezra and Judah Easterly; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Penny Thompson is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate Dr. Penny Thompson on being named the 2022-2023 Supervisor of the Year by the Tennessee Department of Education, commend her exceptional service to the students of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

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