

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1827

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Mr. Patrick Duffy.

WHEREAS, Patrick Duffy was named the 2010 national distinguished principal of the year for Kansas by the National Association of Elementary School Principals and the 2009 Kansas distinguished principal of the year by the Kansas Association of Elementary School Principals; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Duffy earned his bachelor of arts degree from Bethany College and his master of science degree in education from the University of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Duffy retired at the end of the 2010-2011 school year. Before his retirement, Mr. Duffy served as an educator in Kansas for 34 years: Sixteen years as a physical education teacher and 18 years as a principal; and

WHEREAS, As principal of Hesston Elementary School, Mr. Duffy oversaw a sweeping reorganization of the daily schedule at his small-town school. The changes provided long blocks of uninterrupted time for instruction in reading and math; the school day offered built-in time to support struggling students, minimizing transition times and providing teachers opportunities for individual and team planning. Traditional staff meetings were eliminated and replaced with staff members meeting bimonthly in Learning Teams that Mr. Duffy spearheaded, which provided teachers with the opportunity to collaborate and experiment with research-based best practices in instruction. Mr. Duffy also established a building leadership team, which includes teachers from all grade levels, and played an instrumental role in creating a professional learning community among the staff; and

WHEREAS, Since the state has been giving its current state assessments, Hesston Elementary School has achieved standard of excellence awards for every grade in every subject, except one class, and 90% of students of Hesston Elementary School have consistently scored at standard or above; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the National Association of Elementary School Principals congratulates principals from across the nation for their exemplary achievements, by recognizing them in its national distinguished principals program. The national distinguished principals program honors outstanding elementary and middle-level administrators who ensure that America's children acquire a sound foundation for lifelong learning and achievement. The program was established in 1984 to recognize and celebrate elementary and middle-level principals who set high standards for instruction, student achievement, character and climate for the students, families and staffs in their learning communities; and

WHEREAS, Public school elementary and middle-level principals are nominated for this achievement by peers in their state and final selections are made by committees appointed by each of the national association of elementary school principals' state affiliate offices: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Mr. Patrick Duffy upon his selection as 2010 national distinguished principal of the year for Kansas by the National Association of Elementary School Principals and the 2009 Kansas distinguished principal of the year by the Kansas Association of Elementary School Principals; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate shall send five enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator McGinn.

Senate Resolution No. 1827 was sponsored by Senator Carolyn McGinn.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*