State of Tennessee

SECOND EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2

By Representative Kevin Brooks

A RESOLUTION to honor Siema Swartzel on being named a finalist for Tennessee Teacher of the Year.

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

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Siema Swartzel, a music teacher at Arnold Memorial Elementary School in Cleveland, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, the Southeast Region Teacher of the Year, Ms. Swartzel was recently named a finalist for Tennessee Teacher of the Year, an honor most befitting the impact she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Swartzel is the second finalist to ever represent Arnold Memorial; her tremendous accomplishment marks the fourth consecutive year that a teacher from Cleveland City Schools has been selected as a finalist; and

WHEREAS, a music teacher at Arnold Memorial Elementary School for six years, Siema Swartzel has enjoyed an illustrious thirty-three-year career as an educator, having been recognized by Yale University as a Distinguished Music Educator in 2013 and named a quarter finalist for the Grammy Music Educator Award in 2013 and 2014; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Swartzel has rendered sterling assistance to the state committee to revise standards for music education and the state committee to implement teacher evaluation tools for music educators; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to her students, she has received sixteen grants totaling $15,000 to develop the music program at Arnold Memorial; she is the creator and director of the Elementary Honors Chorus and the Arnold Trash Can Band percussion group, which performs in the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Swartzel truly serves as an inspiration to the faculty, staff, and students alike of Arnold Memorial Elementary School, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Siema Swartzel truly epitomizes the dedicated school teacher who 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 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Siema Swartzel upon being named a finalist for Tennessee Teacher of the Year, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

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

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ADOPTED: September 14, 2016

BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES