

## 2015-J2481

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Dean Witham upon the occasion of his retirement after 30 distinguished years as an educator

WHEREAS, New York State's commitment to education is unparalleled; its history and stature are secured by the superlative caliber of its educational professionals and the students they inspire; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of those outstanding educational leaders, whose dedication and achievements have been instrumental in developing character and academic excellence in the young people of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Dean Witham upon the occasion of his retirement after 30 years of dedicated service in education; he will officially retire in June of 2015; and

WHEREAS, Educators like Dean Witham provide a tremendous service to the future of our State and Nation, inspiring generations of young people in their educational journeys and ensuring their success in their future years; and

WHEREAS, Born in Burlington, Vermont, to the late Hugh and Patricia Witham, Dean Witham earned his Bachelor of Science in Education degree from the University of Vermont in 1981, and his master's degree in Education in 1987; and

WHEREAS, Dean Witham began his illustrious career with the Pine Plains School District in 1985; the following year, he accepted a teaching position with the Wallkill Central School District, where he would spend the next 29 years; and

WHEREAS, Since then, this exemplary educator has continually demonstrated an impressive dedication, an unparalleled devotion and an

unremitting enthusiasm for the quality of the educational programs and opportunities offered at his school for the benefit of its faculty and students, as well as for the entire community; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Laurie, and his two brothers, as well as one sister, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Dean Witham has clearly had an enduring impact on the youth of the Wallkill Central School District, as well as on the community-at-large and accordingly merits recognition for his impressive dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those individuals who work to support our proud tradition of public education by providing their skills and talents to our schools; and

WHEREAS, It is also the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, certainly have earned the applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Dean Witham upon the occasion of his retirement after 30 years of dedicated service in education, and to wish him continued success in all his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dean Witham.