

BY: Senator JACOBS

CONGRATULATING Superintendent Stephen Bovino upon the occasion of his retirement from the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School

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 custom 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 Superintendent Stephen Bovino on the occasion of his retirement from the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School; effective at the end of the 2019-2020 Academic Year; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Bovino studied history at the College of New Jersey in Trenton, New Jersey, and earned his Juris Doctor from the George Mason University School of Law in Arlington, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, He previously held a variety of management positions in the private sector before beginning his career in education as a social studies teacher in the Williamsville Central School District; and

WHEREAS, Before coming to Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School (commonly known as Ken-Ton), Stephen Bovino served as an Assistant Principal at Williamsville South High School and then as Principal of John F. Kennedy High School in the Cheektowaga-Sloan Central School District; and

WHEREAS, After nearly a decade of overseeing the Human Resources Department in the Ken-Ton Schools, Stephen Bovino retired in September 2016; only four months later, the schools Board of Education appointed him to serve as Interim Superintendent; he was then appointed to the permanent position of Superintendent in April 2016; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous leadership of Stephen Bovino, the Ken-Ton School District is among the districts in New York State with the highest number of National Board-Certified teachers, and one of the highest percentages of its teaching staff who have earned this distinction in the western part of the state; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Ken-Ton's innovative Big Picture Program, a non-traditional high school program and the only program of its kind in Western New York, has helped guide its students to graduation with a 94 percent graduation rate as of 2018; the program is distinguished by its

small class advisories, individualized project-based approach to learning and internship experience; and

WHEREAS, In May 2019, Stephen Bovino was awarded the Western New York Educational Service Council Award for excellence in the superintendent category, duly recognizing his immense talents for fostering the hearts and minds of our younger generation; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Bovino has clearly had an enduring impact on the youth of the Ken-Ton School District, as well as on the community-at-large, and accordingly merits recognition and applause for his impressive dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those individuals who have worked to support our proud tradition of public education by providing their skills and talents to our schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Stephen Bovino upon the occasion of his retirement from the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District, 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 Stephen Bovino.