BY: Senator RITCHIE

**CONGRATULATING** Lauren F. French upon the occasion of her retirement after many years of dedicated service to the Gouverneur Central School District School

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, 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, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Lauren F. French upon the occasion of her retirement after many years of dedicated service as both an educator and an administrator; she will officially retire on June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, The future success of our State and Nation is dependent upon individuals such as Lauren F. French, who have dedicated their lives nurturing our most precious resource, our youth; and

WHEREAS, Since the 1980s, Lauren F. French has played a pivotal role in the education of countless students in the North Country; and

WHEREAS, The Gouverneur Central School District has been a significant part of Lauren F. French's life, as her relationship with the district began when she was a kindergarten student in 1966; and

WHEREAS, Lauren F. French was first employed by the district in the 1980s, starting her illustrious career as a biology teacher; and

WHEREAS, In 1999, Lauren F. French was appointed as Principal of the middle school, and began her tenure as Superintendent in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her career, Lauren F. French has demonstrated a true passion for making a difference in the lives of children, inspiring them to expand their horizons, be successful in the classroom, and reach new heights in their future careers; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Lauren F. French has proven herself to be a dedicated educator and administrator who cares deeply for her students, faculty, staff and families who are part of the "Wildcats" family; and

WHEREAS, In retirement, Lauren F. French looks forward to spending more time with her family, especially her three young grandchildren, and to continuing to support the district as a community member; 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 Lauren F. French on her well-deserved retirement, and to commend her for the significant positive impact she has had on the Gouverneur Central School District, the North Country region, and this great Empire State; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Lauren F. French.