

Senate Resolution No. 1834

BY: Senator STEC

HONORING Principal James Conway upon the occasion of his designation as the 2026 "Principal of the Year" by the School Administrators Association of New York State and the National Association of Elementary School Principals

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly acknowledge individuals of remarkable integrity and character whose endeavors have enhanced the quality of education in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Principal James Conway upon the occasion of his designation as the 2026 "Principal of the Year" by the School Administrators Association of New York State and the National Association of Elementary School Principals; and

WHEREAS, James Conway has contributed to the excellence and success of Lake George Elementary School and is the quintessential selection for the "Principal of the Year" Award; and

WHEREAS, This prestigious recognition comes during a milestone year for James Conway, who will retire at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year after 18 years of dedicated leadership at Lake George Elementary School and a 36-year career in education; and

WHEREAS, James Conway has built a school community grounded in connection, care, and high expectations for all students and under his leadership, Lake George Elementary School has grown into one of the highest-performing schools in the Capital Region while maintaining a strong focus on the whole child-academically, socially, and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, During James Conway's tenure as Principal, Lake George Elementary School has earned numerous recognitions, including designation as a New York State Recognition School, a U.S. News Best School, and a Leader in Me Lighthouse School, an honor achieved by only a select number of schools worldwide; these accomplishments reflect Conway's unwavering commitment to student growth, leadership development, and inclusive practices that ensure every child has the opportunity to thrive; and

WHEREAS, James Conway has continuously demonstrated impressive dedication, unparalleled devotion and an unremitting enthusiasm for the quality of the educational programs and opportunities offered at his school; and

WHEREAS, Beyond academics, James Conway has championed opportunities for students to explore their interests, resulting in nearly 100 percent

participation in co-curricular activities, and his commitment to building strong partnerships with families and the broader community has further strengthened the school's foundation and sense of connection; and

WHEREAS, A defining feature of James Conway's leadership has been his belief that every student has a voice and the ability to lead; through the Leader in Me framework and a strong emphasis on student engagement, Lake George Elementary School has fostered a culture where students take ownership of their learning, participate in leadership opportunities, and feel a deep sense of belonging within their school; and

WHEREAS, As he prepares for his retirement, James Conway leaves behind a lasting legacy defined by innovation, compassion, and an unwavering belief in students; his influence will continue to be felt in the programs he established, the culture he nurtured, and the countless lives he has impacted; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to now record its recognition and appreciation in honoring an outstanding educational leader, whose dedication and achievements have been instrumental in developing character and academic excellence in his students; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Principal James Conway upon the occasion of his designation as the 2026, "Principal of the Year" by the School Administrators Association of New York State and the National Association of Elementary School Principals; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Principal James Conway.