

**BY:** Senator GRIFFO

**COMMENDING** Superintendent William Dowsland for 30 years of service in education

**WHEREAS,** It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge outstanding individuals within our midst who have made significant contributions to the communities of this State and Nation; and

**WHEREAS,** This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Superintendent William Dowsland for 30 years of service in education; he will officially retire at the end of the 2025-2026 school year; and

**WHEREAS,** William Dowsland has served the Hamilton, New York, community for most of his career, initially joining the school district as a substitute teacher in 1998 and becoming Superintendent of Schools in 2019; through the years, he came to view his Hamilton colleagues as his extended family; and

**WHEREAS,** Prior to joining Hamilton, William Dowsland worked for a year as a teacher at Madison-Oneida BOCES and spent six years in professional hockey, working for the New Jersey Devils Organization's American Hockey League affiliate; and

**WHEREAS,** William Dowsland spent 13 years as a physical education and health teacher; later, he held the titles of Director of Physical Education in the Health and Athletics Department as well as Assistant Principal and Principal of the Junior-Senior High School; during that time, he coached the softball team, earning honors of Coach of the Year from New York State, the Utica Observer-Dispatch, and the Syracuse Post-Standard; and

**WHEREAS,** William Dowsland's tenure with Hamilton Central School District boasts many achievements: the District's budget approved by voters every year; two successful capital projects completed; implementation of social-emotional learning initiatives; commencement of a student board member program prior to the recent State mandate; and expansion of academic offerings in Advanced Placement, dual credit, foreign language, the arts, and CTE programs; and

**WHEREAS,** Additionally, Hamilton Central School District received State and National recognitions for academics, extracurricular activities, music, and the honor of being recognized as one of America's Healthiest Schools, a National initiative which honors schools that support the whole child's health and well-being; and

**WHEREAS,** William Dowsland and his wife have three sons, all Hamilton Central School graduates, and five grandchildren, all with whom he plans to enjoy more time during his retirement; and

**WHEREAS,** The many contributions, of which William Dowsland has

played a vital role, are a testament to his legacy which will inspire future students of Hamilton Central School District for generations to come; throughout the three decades of tireless service to others, he led with integrity, care, and a genuine commitment to the students, staff, and Hamilton community; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those dedicated individuals who have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence unquestionably have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Superintendent William Dowsland upon the occasion of his retirement and to wish him well in all his future endeavors; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to William Dowsland.