

BY: Senator GRIFFO

CONGRATULATING Superintendent Dr. Ravo Root upon the occasion of his retirement after many years of distinguished service to Camden Central School District

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those educators within our midst who have devoted their careers to the service of others, nurturing the growth and development of countless young people in this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Dr. Ravo Root upon the occasion of his retirement after more than 30 years of dedicated service as an educator and administrator, including seven years as Superintendent of the Camden Central School District, the esteemed position from which he will officially retire on July 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ravo Root began his distinguished career in education as a teacher at Cortland Alternative High School and went on to serve as both a teacher and assistant principal in the East Syracuse-Minoa School District; and

WHEREAS, His leadership continued in Western New York where he served as principal of Pioneer Middle School, which earned both New York State and National "School to Watch" designations; he subsequently served as Superintendent of Fillmore Central School District before returning to Central New York to lead the Camden Central School District; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure in Camden, Dr. Ravo Root implemented a broad range of transformative initiatives, including a \$35 million capital project to enhance safety, security, athletic facilities, and learning environments; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, he oversaw the reintroduction of school patrol officers in partnership with the Oneida County Sheriff's Office and spearheaded the development of a district-wide strategic plan; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ravo Root championed the implementation of the Capturing Kids' Hearts Character Education Curriculum, resulting in McConnellsville Elementary School being honored as a National Showcase School; and

WHEREAS, Under his leadership, Camden Middle School achieved the prestigious National and New York State "Schools to Watch" designation; and

WHEREAS, His commitment to student well-being led to the expansion of counseling and mental health services, as well as partnerships with

community organizations such as the Neighborhood Center, Center for Family Life and Recovery, and Mosaic Dental; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ravo Root promoted educational equity through the creation of an early childhood program for children as young as two, expanded dual-credit and internship opportunities, and the development of new extracurricular offerings including FFA, girls wrestling, unified sports, and fine arts programming; and

WHEREAS, He successfully led the passage of six consecutive school budgets and improved district communications through the launch of a new website, mobile application, and quarterly newsletter; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his career, Dr. Ravo Root has remained steadfast in his commitment to student-centered leadership, academic excellence, and inclusive educational practices; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of individuals such as Dr. Root, who have inspired generations of learners and left an enduring impact on the school communities they have served; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Dr. Ravo Root upon the occasion of his retirement, and to extend its sincere gratitude for his outstanding contributions to public education in New York State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Ravo Root.