



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

February 3, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Resolution Honoring Betty Underwood

Attached is a resolution regarding Betty Underwood who is retiring from the MDE on February 20, 2009.

The resolution recognizes Betty Underwood for her many years of service to public school children in Michigan.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education adopt the resolution regarding Betty Underwood, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated February 3, 2009.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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RESOLUTION

BETTY UNDERWOOD

WHEREAS, Betty (Nichols) Underwood, a product of the Lansing Public Schools, received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education and Masters Degree in Reading Instruction from Michigan State University; and

WHEREAS, Betty began her career in education with the Lansing Public Schools in 1974; and

WHEREAS, during her 30 years with the Lansing Public Schools, Betty worked as a teacher at the elementary and middle school levels, English language arts curriculum consultant, a teacher with gifted/talented/creative programs, an integrated arts teacher, a process writing coach, and as an elementary principal for twelve years; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, Betty began work as an educator on loan with the Department of Education's Partnership for Success Program, supporting high priority schools across the state; and

WHEREAS, Betty was appointed the Assistant Director for Curriculum and Instruction in the Michigan Department of Education, Office of School Improvement in 2004, working with the core curriculum areas and support programs, including Grade Level Content Expectations and Guidelines, Michigan Merit Curriculum, World Languages, Reading First, English Language Learners, Migrant, Advanced and Accelerated Programs, Homeless, Comprehensive School Reform, School Improvement Framework, Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment, and Public School Academies; and

WHEREAS, Betty Underwood was appointed Interim Director of the Office of School Improvement on June 18, 2007, and was appointed Director on June 15, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Betty has announced her retirement from the Michigan Department of Education on February 20, 2009; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education receive with deep regret the news of the well-deserved retirement of this honored and distinguished educator; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education hereby expresses its gratitude, respect, and appreciation to this exceptional individual; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That in addition to its respect and gratitude, the State Board of Education extends to Betty its highest regard, and its best wishes for the future.