



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

July 26, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan 

SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution Honoring Jacquelyn J. Thompson

Attached is a resolution in honor of Jacquelyn J. Thompson, who will retire from the Michigan Department of Education on July 30, 2010.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education adopt the resolution honoring Jacquelyn J. Thompson, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated July 26, 2010.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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WHEREAS, Dr. Jacquelyn J. Thompson, prior to joining the Michigan Department of Education in 1988, was a Speech Pathologist serving children in the public schools of New York, Wisconsin, and Michigan, and an Early Childhood Educator at Michigan State University; and

WHEREAS, from 1988 – 1997 Jacquelyn J. Thompson served as an Early Childhood Consultant and Early Childhood Coordinator for the Michigan Department of Education, leading the development and implementation of *Early ON*© Michigan under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, a statewide system of services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families; and

WHEREAS, in 1997 Jacquelyn J. Thompson was appointed as State Director for Special Education and Early Intervention Services at the Michigan Department of Education, a position she held until her retirement on July 30, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Jacquelyn J. Thompson as State Director of Special Education and Early Intervention Services led the regulatory, procedural, and practice reforms in Michigan to align with the 1997 and 2004 reauthorizations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; and

WHEREAS, Jacquelyn J. Thompson has focused on improving results for children with disabilities and their families as well as improving the delivery of public education to all children with the Michigan Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, Jacquelyn J. Thompson is distinguished for her leadership in the use of data and technology to drive systemic compliance and continuous improvement in general supervision for special education programs and services; and

WHEREAS, Jacquelyn J. Thompson initiated and implemented data-driven improvement initiatives to address the critical and emergent needs of children in Michigan, applying research and evidence-based practices within statewide systems, most notably Michigan's Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative and the Statewide Autism Resources and Training initiative, both of which are nationally recognized as exemplars; and

WHEREAS, Jacquelyn J. Thompson has led and supported stakeholder involvement to address many critical issues in public education in Michigan, leading to the adoption of policies by the State Board of Education, including Principles and Vision for Universal Education, School-Wide Positive Behavior Supports, and Standards for the Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint; and

WHEREAS, Jacquelyn J. Thompson was elected by her peers to serve as a member of the National Association of State Directors of Special Education Board of Directors from 2002 through 2008, serving as a member-at-large, secretary-treasurer, president-elect and president; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her outstanding contributions over many years to the National Association of State Directors of Special Education, and to the children and youth with disabilities in Michigan and throughout the nation, Jacquelyn J. Thompson was awarded the organization's highest award, the Heritage Award, in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Jacquelyn J. Thompson is recognized as an exemplary education leader whose innovative work has enhanced the educational opportunities and outcomes for children with disabilities in Michigan and throughout the country being recognized nationally with the National Leadership Award from the Institute for Educational Leadership; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education thanks Jacquelyn J. Thompson for her more than 22 years of dedicated service to the Michigan Department of Education and the students, parents, and educators in Michigan; and be it finally,

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education expresses its fervent wish that Jacquelyn J. Thompson enjoys many, many more years of happiness, good health, and rewarding experiences.