

## RESOLUTION

### CHARLENE MERRICK

WHEREAS, Charlene Merrick was born and raised in Lansing, Michigan and is the second eldest of five children (two brothers and two sisters); and

WHEREAS, in 1973 Charlene was the recipient of the Carol Burnett Actalike Award, noted especially for her Tarzan yell; and

WHEREAS, Charlene graduated from Lansing Eastern High School in 1976; and

WHEREAS, Charlene began her employment with the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE) Michigan Rehabilitation Services in 1976 as a Stenographer Clerk 5 and was promoted to a Secretary 8 by the time she left in 1986 to work in the Office of Human Resources Labor Relations Unit as a Secretary 9 from 1986-1989 until she was promoted to an Executive Secretary 12 in School Management where she worked from 1989-1995; and

WHEREAS, in 1991 Charlene received her Associate's in Business Management degree from Lansing Community College; and

WHEREAS, Charlene began her long working partnership with Carol Wolenberg when she was promoted to a State Executive Management Assistant 13 in 1995 where she has enjoyed and achieved tremendous job satisfaction while working with Department staff, other State Departments, and school districts; and

WHEREAS, Charlene always led by the example of her hard work, dedication, and commitment to excellent service, thereby raising the bar for others; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 1998, the State Board of Education presented Charlene with the 1997 Stella Gikas Secretarial Excellence Award for providing leadership to others, outstanding service to education, dedication to excellence, and maintaining the highest professional standards; and

WHEREAS, Charlene plans to spend more time doing her favorite activities such as designing her own greeting cards which she has shared with those in need through a random acts of kindness program; reading, movies and the arts; her daily exercise program; spending more time with family – her husband, Terry, stepchildren James, Jeff, and Jess and grandchildren Shelby, Brody, and Avery – and friends; and traveling the U.S. with her husband, and

WHEREAS, she now will have the time to pursue new interests such as photography, sewing/quilting, water color, helping children learn to read and volunteering as an elementary teacher's aide; and

WHEREAS, Charlene has announced her retirement from the Michigan Department of Education effective on January 1, 2011; now, therefore be it

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

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education thanks Charlene for her contributions and years of dedicated service; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education wishes Charlene Merrick a retirement full of laughter, happiness and good health with family and friends.