2024 RES-218 RECOGNIZING AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK 2024

WHEREAS, American Education Week was first established by the National Education Association (NEA) in 1921. It has since been celebrated annually and nationwide in the third full week of November to honor the importance of education and those who contribute to the educational process, and is being commemorated this year from November 18 through November 22, 2024; and

WHEREAS, American Education Week is an opportunity to highlight the vital role of education in shaping the future, recognize the contributions of educators, school staff, and the entire education community, and emphasize the value of a quality education and the need for collaboration among teachers, parents, students, and the community to ensure student success: and

WHEREAS, education is one of the largest employment sectors in Dane County, with twentyone K4-12 school districts or governing entities of various types, representing 164 public schools and 55 private schoolsⁱ; and

WHEREAS, our schools employ many unsung heroes, chief among them the special education assistants who play a vital role in our schools and do tremendous work to support the most vulnerable of our students while receiving the lowest salaries;

WHEREAS, this annual observance provides a dedicated time for schools, families, individuals, and communities to come together and support education and honor the dedication and hard work of educators and education support professionals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes the week of November 18 through 22, 2024, as American Education Week.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes and honors the daily dedication and commitment shown by Dane County educators, staff, and schools to all children, families, our communities, and our world through their work.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors encourages its members and the public to use American Education Week as an opportunity to show appreciation for educators and promote the value of education in various ways, including the following:

- Thank an Educator: Express your gratitude to teachers, school staff, and all of the education professionals who have made a positive impact on your life, your child's life, or the life of a child who is important to you.
- Visit Schools: Arrange visits to local schools to learn about the educational programs and initiatives in your community.
- Participate in Parent-Teacher Conferences: Attend parent-teacher conferences to discuss your child's progress and education goals.
- Support Education Initiatives: Get involved in local education initiatives, such as school improvement projects or literacy programs.

| • | Advocate for Education: Advocate for policies and funding that support quality education in your community and beyond. |
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| • | Engage in Education Discussions: Join discussions on education topics and attend educational seminars or workshops. |
| | Patrick Miles, Chair Dane County Board of Supervisor |
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Signed and sealed before me this _____ day of _____, 2024.

Scott McDonell, Dane County Clerk

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