

By: Representatives D. Garner, Clowney, D. Whitaker, C. Fite, Coleman, Breaux, Penzo, Godfrey  
By: Senators G. Leding, L. Eads

## **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR ONE  
HUNDRED FIFTY (150) YEARS OF EXCELLENT PUBLIC  
EDUCATION.

### **Subtitle**

TO CONGRATULATE FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS FOR ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) YEARS  
OF EXCELLENT PUBLIC EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, Fayetteville School District No. 1 of Washington County, Arkansas, also known as the "District", was the first public school district chartered in the State of Arkansas in 1871; and

WHEREAS, the first meeting of the Fayetteville Board of Education was held on March 20, 1871; and

WHEREAS, throughout the one-hundred-fifty-year history of Fayetteville Public Schools, the District has consistently set high standards for excellence, inclusion, and innovation; and

WHEREAS, in 1921, Leverett Elementary School in Fayetteville became the first school in Arkansas to become a member of the National Congress of Mothers, later known as the "National PTA"; and



WHEREAS, the District has a long-standing commitment to equity and equality for all, including the Fayetteville School Board's decision on May 21, 1954, to voluntarily begin integrating the District's schools, just four (4) days after the landmark opinion of *Brown v. Board of Education* was issued by the United States Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, the District opened Uptown School in 1972 to serve students who were in danger of dropping out of school, and it was the longest continually operating alternative school in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Fayetteville Public Schools administrator Henrietta Holcomb and state representative Hugh Kincaid led the push for kindergarten in Arkansas public schools during the 1975 legislative session; and

WHEREAS, a group of teachers in the District wrote an Arkansas history curriculum for students in grade four (4) in 1984 since an Arkansas history curriculum did not exist at the time, and school districts around the state requested copies of the Arkansas history curriculum; and

WHEREAS, established in 1983, the Fayetteville Public Schools Gifted and Talented education program became the standard for gifted and talented programs in Arkansas and has been recognized as the state's top gifted and talented program a record seven (7) times; and

WHEREAS, the District opened Fayetteville Virtual Academy in 2016, which was the first district charter conversion online public school in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the District continues to live up to its mission to personalize learning and exceed expectations every day in an inclusive and safe environment; and

WHEREAS, the District upholds the vision to be the trusted leader in Arkansas public education, ensuring every student achieves his or her full potential,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Ninety-Third General Assembly congratulate Fayetteville Public Schools for achieving one hundred fifty (150) years of excellent public education.