

1 HR203  
2 213146-1  
3 By Representatives Moore (P) and Stadthagen  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 15-APR-21

1 213146-1:n:04/13/2021:BH/bh LSA2021-1138

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8 HONORING DR. DANNA BENEFIELD JONES AS A BLUE RIBBON  
9 SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE SUPERINTENDENT.

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11 WHEREAS, with great pride and special pleasure, we  
12 highly honor Dr. Danna "Dee Dee" Benefield Jones as a Blue  
13 Ribbon Schools of Excellence Superintendent; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Jones is only the second in the nation  
15 to be recognized with this prestigious award and distinction  
16 and is the first Superintendent to be recognized where all  
17 schools in the district are Blue Ribbon Schools; the schools  
18 were evaluated in nine categories indicative of being  
19 high-performing schools, including curriculum, student focus,  
20 school culture, active teaching, community relationships, and  
21 technology; the Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Program then  
22 conducted school visits, classroom observations, and  
23 stakeholder focus groups; every school in the Hartselle City  
24 School System has now been recognized as a Blue Ribbon School  
25 of Excellence; furthermore, the Hartselle City School System  
26 is one of the top 10 high-performing school districts in  
27 Alabama under Dr. Jones's leadership; and

1                   WHEREAS, Dr. Jones is from Fort Payne, Alabama, and  
2 has been in education for over 30 years; she is Hartselle's  
3 first female Superintendant of Education and came to Hartselle  
4 as the Director of Teaching and Learning for Hartselle City  
5 Schools; in addition, she teaches at The University of Alabama  
6 at Birmingham as an Adjunct Professor; she holds a Bachelor of  
7 Science Degree from Jacksonville State University and both a  
8 Master of Arts Degree in Elementary and Early Childhood  
9 Education and a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from The  
10 University of Alabama at Birmingham; and

11                   WHEREAS, as Hartselle's Superintendant, Dr. Jones  
12 has advanced educational opportunities for Hartselle students  
13 by listening when people from outside education had ideas, so  
14 she then launched one of the most successful Civil Air Patrol  
15 programs in the State of Alabama; being on the cutting edge by  
16 connecting with area businesses and workforce development,  
17 which led to multiple career and technical opportunities being  
18 created, such as Tiger Launch; and leading the way for all  
19 students in area districts, including Hartselle, Morgan  
20 County, and Decatur City, by fighting for what is best for  
21 students; and

22                   WHEREAS, some of Dr. Jones's other achievements  
23 include serving as a Professional  
24 Development/Curriculum/Career Tech Supervisor in the Decatur  
25 City School System from 2012 to 2015; being the Career and  
26 Technical Education Workforce Development 21st Century Grant  
27 Recipient; speaking at the School Superintendent Association

Fall Conference in Florence, Alabama, in 2013 and 2016; speaking at the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Educational Leadership Conference in Chicago, Illinois, in 2006; receiving the Alabama Music Educators Association Outstanding Administrator Award in 2021; being appointed by Governor Kay Ivey to the North Alabama Works Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Board on June 30, 2020; and receiving the John J. Sparkman Citizenship Award from the Hartselle Chamber of Commerce in June 2020; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jones is very active in her church, Westmeade Baptist Church, where she has been a member and a keyboardist since 1990; her other community involvements include, but are not limited to, being a member of the Hartselle Rotary Club, Hartselle Kiwanis, Delta Kappa Gamma, and School Superintendents of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, she enjoys cooking, playing the piano, watching The University of Alabama Football, and spending time with her family; she and her husband of 31 years, Joey Jones, have two daughters, Emsley and Caroline; and

WHEREAS, as an ambitious woman who is passionate about serving and guiding others, Dr. Jones is an inspiration, a leader, and a friend to many; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Dr. Danna "Dee Dee" Benefield  
Jones is highly honored as a Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence  
Superintendent, and we hereby dedicate this resolution to her

1       with heartiest gratitude and admiration, along with sincere  
2       best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.