

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 157

BY SENATOR PRESSLY

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Ginger Gustavson for her contributions and years of leadership in education on the occasion of her retirement as Head of School at First Baptist Church School in Shreveport.

WHEREAS, a proud graduate of Benton High School, Ginger Gustavson distinguished herself athletically as an All-State basketball player in 1987 and later competed collegiately in both golf and basketball, and a member of the inaugural LSU Shreveport Lady Pilots basketball team, where she remains among the school's all-time leading scorers; and

WHEREAS, in 1993 Ginger graduated from Louisiana State University in Shreveport (LSUS) with a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Math, and in 2008 she earned a Master's Degree in Education plus 30 Graduate Hours from LSUS and went to work in the Caddo Parish school system; and

WHEREAS, Ginger's career includes service at Woodlawn High School, Southwood High School, C.E. Byrd High School, Caddo Middle Magnet, Broadmoor Middle Laboratory School, First Baptist Church School, and the Caddo Parish schools central office, during which she served as an administrative assistant for math and physical education at First Baptist Church School and the Caddo Parish school system; a counselor at C.E. Byrd High School; and a math curriculum specialist in the Caddo Parish school system providing instructional support to math teachers in grades 6 through 12; consistently demonstrating a passion for empowering students and supporting educators; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gustavson has faithfully served the students of northwest Louisiana in her capacity as a teacher, counselor, curriculum specialist, and administrator, earning the admiration and respect of colleagues, students, parents, alumni, and community leaders by leading with vision, integrity, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to academic excellence and student success; and

WHEREAS, under her leadership, Captain Shreve High School experienced

continued growth in graduation rates, student achievement, parental involvement, and enrollment, while earning recognition as a National PTA School of Excellence and gaining accolades for student leadership advocacy and academic achievement and she was named the 2020 Louisiana Association of School Executives Regional Principal of the Year, an honor reflecting the profound impact she has made on students, educators, and the broader educational community and in 2021 Ginger was named Caddo Parish Public Schools High School Principal of the Year; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career, Ginger has exemplified the value of teamwork, discipline, perseverance, and leadership; the attributes she brought to First Baptist Church School as Head of School beginning in July 2023; and

WHEREAS, under her leadership as Head of School, Ginger expanded on First Baptist Church School's history of excellence and was responsible for a major facilities project and the sports complex that will benefit the school's students for years to come; and

WHEREAS, Ginger Gustavson has deep roots in education which extend throughout her family, including her parents, both retired educators, her husband David Gustavson, a longtime LSU Shreveport educator, and her siblings who also serve the students of Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, Ginger's leadership style, marked by energy, competitiveness, innovation, and genuine care for others, leaves an enduring legacy to the students, faculty, and families at First Baptist Church School in Shreveport and throughout the educational community of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Ginger's retirement from First Baptist Church School marks the conclusion of a remarkable chapter of service, and signals the beginning of a new venture through which she will continue to inspire and have a positive influence in the field of education.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana hereby commends and congratulates Ginger Gustavson upon the occasion of her retirement as Head of School at First Baptist Church School in Shreveport; expresses profound appreciation for decades of dedicated educational service and leadership; and extends sincere and best wishes for continued happiness, success, and fulfillment in all her future endeavors.

SR NO. 157

ENROLLED

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mrs. Ginger Gustavson as an expression of deep respect and appreciation.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE