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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 496

Offered March 8, 2004

Commending Dr. N. Wayne Tripp.

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Patrons—Griffith, Fralin and Ware, O.; Senators: Bell and Edwards

WHEREAS, Salem school superintendent Dr. N. Wayne Tripp was named 2003 Virginia Superintendent of the Year by the Virginia Association of School Superintendents; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tripp, who has been Salem's superintendent for 14 years, was selected from among eight regional superintendents of the year, who were chosen from 133 superintendents in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tripp was selected for the top award by the Secretary of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the presidents of three major education organizations; and

WHEREAS, associated with the Salem schools for 21 years, Dr. Tripp served as director of instruction and as interim principal of West Salem Elementary before becoming superintendent; and

WHEREAS, as Salem's superintendent, Dr. Tripp was cited for a wide range of accomplishments;

WHEREAS, all six Salem public schools are fully accredited, based on their pass rates on Standards of Learning tests, and five of the six have been fully accredited for four years; and

WHEREAS, Salem is one of only 15 school divisions in the Commonwealth with an average teacher salary that exceeds the national average, and Salem High School was the second school in Virginia to be approved to offer the International Baccalaureate diploma; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tripp has led the effort to build relationships with the Salem community in order to

provide maximum support for the school division; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tripp was a member of the transition team that planned for the independent school system when Salem withdrew from the Roanoke County school district, has guided improvements at all schools in the district, and is overseeing a \$10 million renovation and expansion of Andrew Lewis Middle School, the largest capital project in the school system's 20-year history; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Dr. N. Wayne Tripp on being named Virginia's School Superintendent of the Year; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dr. N. Wayne Tripp as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for his notable accomplishments and his dedication to the education of the young people of Salem.