

2018 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 40

Offered February 19, 2018

Commending Donna Whitley-Smith.

Patron—Obenshain

WHEREAS, Donna Whitley-Smith, an experienced and respected educator who has touched the lives of countless students, will retire as superintendent of Page County Public Schools on June 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS, a native of Fairfax County, Donna Whitley-Smith earned a bachelor's degree from Madison College in 1975 and a master's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1991; and

WHEREAS, Donna Whitley-Smith began her career in education in 1975 as a teacher at Grove Hill Elementary School, where she taught fourth through seventh grade; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, Donna Whitley-Smith was appointed assistant principal at Luray Elementary School; she became the school's principal the following year and continued to serve in that role until 2004, when she became Page County Public Schools' assistant superintendent for instruction; and

WHEREAS, Donna Whitley-Smith became acting superintendent of Page County Public Schools in August 2014, and her tenure as superintendent began the following month; and

WHEREAS, under Donna Whitley-Smith's diligent leadership, Page County Public Schools has established strong lines of communication, set new standards for teaching excellence, and recorded one of the highest graduation rates in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, outside of her commitment to education, Donna Whitley-Smith is a lifelong animal lover who has been active in the Page County SPCA and the organizations Page Paws and Cat's Cradle; and

WHEREAS, during her more than 40-year career in education, Donna Whitley-Smith has maintained the highest standards of leadership and personal integrity and has served as a role model for her students and her fellow teachers and administrative personnel; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Donna Whitley-Smith hereby be commended on her distinguished career in education on the occasion of her retirement as superintendent of Page County Public Schools; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Donna Whitley-Smith as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for her years of service and best wishes for a well-deserved retirement.

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