

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT AND RECOGNITION OF  
THE MADISON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, during the COVID-19 pandemic, Madison County Schools has safely guarded and maintained access to education for one of the County's most precious resources; 2,135 students and their families, providing both in person and remote learning as well as working tirelessly to ensure that 436 staff members have remained employed; and

**WHEREAS**, resources have been utilized to add counselors, social workers, school nurses, and instructional specialists in reading and math to provide for educational components as well as physical and mental health of students while ensuring each child access to the tools necessary to learn and grow in a positive environment; and

**WHEREAS**, grants and resources secured in collaboration with faith-based organizations, non-profits, and local fire departments have provided food, internet hot spots, and other necessities while consistently following state law and public health guidelines to keep students and staff members safe allowing for 188,150 breakfasts and 208,500 lunches to be served directly to student's homes free of charge and to supply each student and teacher a computer; and

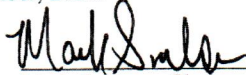
**WHEREAS**, weekly meetings have been conducted with school and health care officials including county health department staff to discuss COVID-19 data and provide monthly updates to the Board of Education so that informed decisions could be made assisting to keep schools open and students and staff members safe; and

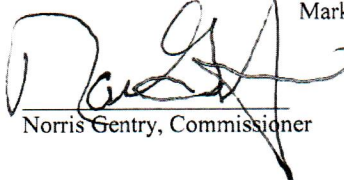
**WHEREAS**, Madison County Schools developed one of the first pilot programs in North Carolina to provide "rapid" COVID-19 antigen testing in schools, allowing the district to make data-informed decisions for the well-being of students and staff. COVID-19 data including the number of positive cases, quarantines, and the overall positivity rate as well as vaccination opportunities continue to be made in the form of weekly updates; and


**WHEREAS**, currently and during the most challenging times of the pandemic, an academic standard above the state average in most content areas has been maintained. The School System has received recognition of numerous awards including; ranking 15th out of 115 school districts in grade level proficiency as measured by end of grade assessments after the 2020-2021 school year, the selection of Brush Creek Elementary School as a National Blue Ribbon School for exemplary academic performance by the U.S. Department of Education for the current school year, and two awards to the schools' finance department for excellence in financial management from the Association of School Business Officials.


**NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED** that the Madison County Board of Commissioners recognizes Madison County Schools for past and current achievements during the COVID-19 pandemic and offers continued support to administrators and staff for their hard work and dedication to students and families.


This the 9th day of November, 2021.

  
Mark Snelson, Chairman

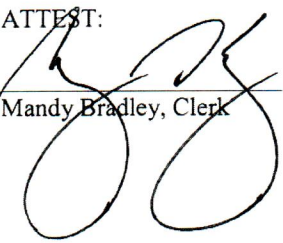
  
Norris Gentry, Commissioner

  
Craig Goforth, Vice-Chairman

  
Matt Wechtel, Commissioner

  
Michael Garrison, Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Mandy Bradley, Clerk