

Introduced by Council Member Freeman & Co-Sponsored by Council Members Salem, Morgan, Priestly Jackson, Dennis, DeFoor, Carlucci, Newby, Pittman, Boylan, R. Gaffney and Hazouri:

**RESOLUTION 2021-37-A**

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING DR. DIANA GREENE ON BEING NAMED THE 2021 FLORIDA SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR BY THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF DISTRICT SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, this year, Dr. Diana Greene was named the 2021 Florida Superintendent of the Year by the Florida Association of District School Superintendents, making her the 33<sup>rd</sup> superintendent and second African-American woman to receive this honor; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Diana Greene became the Superintendent of Duval County Public Schools on July 1, 2018. Prior to her work in Duval County, she was the Superintendent of the School District of Manatee County, where she made significant strides forward academically, financially and in terms of its public perception; and

**WHEREAS**, during her 33-year career as an educator, Dr. Greene spent time as a teacher, assistant principal, and principal; and also worked in curriculum development, staff development and in senior executive leadership. The Duval County Schools 2019 school grades reflect remarkable growth, two-thirds of the district's low performing schools - those that earned a "D" or an "F" in 2018, improved by one or more letter grades in the 2018-19 school year, and the number of "A" rated schools in the district grew by almost thirty percent. The District scored a historic number of points on

1 Florida's Accountability Scorecard and now sits just a fraction of  
2 a percentage point from an "A" rated designation; and

3       **WHEREAS**, as DCPS Superintendent, Dr. Greene personally  
4 reviewed every high school for safety, leading to the plans for the  
5 installation of high definition security cameras throughout each  
6 facility and improved perimeter fencing at many schools. Dr. Greene  
7 has taken several steps to improve the stability and public  
8 perception of the District's finances. She advocated for the half-  
9 penny sales tax to improve all school facilities over the next 10-  
10 15 years, which Duval County voters approved in November by 67  
11 percent. The sales tax revenue will go towards building upgrades  
12 and renovations, making schools functional and safer, and improving  
13 academic outcomes, while reducing operational costs. The District  
14 has also completed a financial transparency web page that provides  
15 easy public access to budgets, audits and financial reports; and

16       **WHEREAS**, under Dr. Greene's leadership, and with the support  
17 from board members, staff, parents, and business and community  
18 leaders, Duval County Public Schools has seen impressive progress  
19 in the district graduation rate - almost ten percentage points,  
20 from 76.6 percent in 2014-2015 to 86.5 percent in 2018-2019.  
21 Additionally, the achievement gap between white and African  
22 American students has decreased, and the graduation rates for  
23 Hispanic students, and students with disabilities, have increased;  
24 and

25       **WHEREAS**, Diana Greene grew up living in locations all over the  
26 United States as the daughter of an Air Force father, and later as  
27 a Navy spouse; Dr. Greene is also a proud parent of two outstanding  
28 adult children; now therefore

29       **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

30       **Section 1.**       The City of Jacksonville hereby congratulates  
31 Dr. Diana Greene for her dedication to education and public

1 service, and for striving to make a positive difference in  
2 children's lives every day. City Council commends Dr. Greene for  
3 her achievements as Duval County Schools Superintendent and  
4 celebrates her for this well-deserved honor of being named Florida  
5 2021 Superintendent of the Year.

6 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become  
7 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
8 without the Mayor's signature.  
9

10 Form Approved:

11  
12 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

13 Office of General Counsel

14 Legislation Prepared By: Richard Distel, City Council Research

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