

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 204

By Farmer

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Miriam Janeth Alvarez-Oliva, the 2020–2021 Sevier County School District Primary Grades Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Miriam Janeth Alvarez-Oliva is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, an ELL (English Language Learner) teacher for students in kindergarten and first grade at Pi Beta Phi Elementary School, Ms. Alvarez was recently named the 2020–2021 Sevier County School District Primary Grades Teacher of the Year, a most befitting honor for her tenure as an educator, as it recognizes the positive influence she has on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, after working as a substitute teacher for five years, Miriam Alvarez began her full-time teaching career in 2016 at Sevierville Intermediate School, where she taught ELL students in grades two through five; and

WHEREAS, she came on board at Pi Beta Phi Elementary School in 2017 as part of the Read to Be Ready summer program and the Mountaineer Connection after-school program; in 2018, she began teaching ELL students in kindergarten through sixth grade, and in 2019, she transitioned into her current position of teaching kindergarten and first-grade English Language Learners; and

WHEREAS, Miriam Alvarez is a valued leader at Pi Beta Phi Elementary School; in addition to assisting general education teachers with lesson modifications, she serves as the

schoolwide Family Engagement Chair and Spanish Language Community Liaison and volunteers as a translator and interpreter for all school functions as needed; and

WHEREAS, a positive force throughout her community, Ms. Alvarez has volunteered at Gatlinburg-Pittman High School on registration night to assist Spanish-speaking students, as an interpreter with Tremont Institute and Wears Valley First Baptist Church as they delivered goods to needy families during the COVID-19 pandemic, and as a translator with the Great Story Reading Project; and

WHEREAS, she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in 2015 from Maryville College, which has since honored and recognized her as a distinguished alumna; and

WHEREAS, Miriam Alvarez is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who has worked assiduously throughout her career in education to motivate her students, fellow teachers, and staff to reach their full potential as scholars, professionals, and citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Alvarez truly serves as an inspiration to the faculty and staff at Pi Beta Phi Elementary School, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Miriam Alvarez epitomizes the dedicated educator who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Miriam Janeth Alvarez-Oliva on being chosen as the 2020–2021 Sevier County School District Primary Grades Teacher of the Year, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.