



HR0674

LRB103 40009 ECR 71346 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Principal Brian Kelly, Ed.D. on the occasion of being a finalist for the 2024 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Leadership; and

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WHEREAS, The Golden Apple Awards, sponsored by the Golden Apple Foundation, honor excellence in teaching and school leadership; and

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WHEREAS, Out of more than 100 nominations, Dr. Kelly was one of five school principals named as a finalist for the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Leadership in the State of Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Kelly, a Chicago Public Schools (CPS) graduate, received his Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Master of Education from DePaul University, his Master of Arts in Special Education and Teaching from the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), his Master of Education in Educational Leadership and Administration from Concordia University Chicago, and his Doctor of Education in Urban Education and Leadership from UIC; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Kelly has served as the principal at Dr.

1 Martin Luther King Jr. College Preparatory High School (King
2 College Prep) since 2019; he began his career at CPS as a
3 social studies teacher and special education teacher for
4 students with behavioral and emotional disorders and specific
5 learning disabilities, working at Morgan Park High School and
6 George Westinghouse College Preparatory High School before
7 serving as an assistant principal at John F. Kennedy High
8 School; and

9 WHEREAS, During his tenure at King College Prep, Dr. Kelly
10 has led educators in building systems and processes to improve
11 the student experience and increase student achievement; under
12 his direction, the school's annual attendance rate has
13 increased from 89% to 94%, its enrollment has grown nearly
14 50%, its participation in athletic programs has tripled, its
15 GPA has increased from 2.59 to 3.80, and its four-year
16 graduation rate has reached over 99%; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Kelly has previously received an award for
18 Excellence in Administration from the Those Who Excel &
19 Teacher of the Year program by the Illinois State Board of
20 Education in 2023; he has also served as a leadership lab
21 practitioner for the Cahn Fellowship, an organization that
22 provides advanced leadership development for talented school
23 leaders in large metropolitan areas; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Kelly believes in creating an environment
2 where leaders model the expectations they have for those
3 around them and lead with the heart, and he has worked to
4 measure outcomes in learning for their intended impact while
5 creating an environment where students have a balance of
6 academics, extracurricular and athletic activities, and social
7 development opportunities; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
9 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we congratulate Principal Brian Kelly, Ed.D. on being a
11 finalist for the 2024 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in
12 Leadership, and we commend him for his dedication to the
13 students, community, and staff of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
14 College Preparatory High School; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to Dr. Kelly as an expression of our esteem and
17 respect.