



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to offer our sincere congratulations to  
4 Dr. Joel Morris, who will become the next Superintendent of  
5 Maine Township High School District 207; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1969, Dr. Morris graduated from Maine South  
7 High School; and

8 WHEREAS, After leaving Maine South High School, Dr. Morris  
9 went on to earn a bachelor's degree in history from Illinois  
10 State University, a master's degree in history from Loyola  
11 University, and a doctorate in educational administration with  
12 superintendent endorsement from the University of Illinois;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Morris served as a teacher at Maine South and  
15 as a central office administrator at Maine for eighteen years;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, He left the Maine Township school system to become  
18 the Superintendent of West Chicago Community High School  
19 District 94, until he moved to Iowa in 1996 to serve as  
20 Superintendent of the Dubuque school system; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1999, he returned to Illinois and has since led  
22 Elmhurst schools as Superintendent of Elmhurst Community Unit  
23 School District 205; and

24 WHEREAS, For the past seven years, Dr. Morris has shaped  
25 Elmhurst schools into some of the best schools in Illinois; and

26 WHEREAS, Dr. Morris' administration has overseen the  
27 completion of the York Community High School renovation into a  
28 state-of-the-art facility; and

1           WHEREAS, His vision and institutional knowledge are the  
2 driving force behind the ascension of Elmhurst schools to an  
3 elite category of excellence; and

4           WHEREAS, He has developed unique partnerships with  
5 community groups and agencies to help better serve the needs of  
6 students and local residents; and

7           WHEREAS, Upon leaving Elmhurst, Dr. Morris will return to  
8 his alma mater, Maine Township High School District 207, as the  
9 new superintendent; and

10           WHEREAS, Maine Township High School District 207 has  
11 approximately 7,500 students enrolled at three high schools and  
12 is comprised of students from Park Ridge, Des Plaines and parts  
13 of Glenview, Harwood Heights, Morton Grove, Niles, Norridge,  
14 Norwood Park Township, and Rosemont; and

15           WHEREAS, Not only did Dr. Morris graduate from Maine South,  
16 but his son is also a fellow alumni; and

17           WHEREAS, In 1995, Dr. Morris was named Superintendent of  
18 the Year by the Illinois Association of School Administrators,  
19 and he received the University of Illinois Distinguished Alumni  
20 Award in 1999; and

21           WHEREAS, Dr. Joel Morris' dedication to improving  
22 education in Illinois is a source of inspiration to the entire  
23 community and State; therefore, be it

24           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
25 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
26 we congratulate Dr. Joel Morris for his exemplary years of  
27 service, for his achievement of educational excellence, and for  
28 his dedication to the children and residents of the City of

1 Elmhurst; and be it further

2       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
3 presented to Dr. Morris, his family, the City of Elmhurst, and  
4 Elmhurst Community Unit School District 205 School Board.