



**Adoption Resolution
March 3, 2021**

State of New Jersey
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Resolution to Honor Assistant Commissioner Margaret McDonald, Ed.D.

Whereas, Dr. Margaret “Peggy” McDonald has served with distinction as an employee of the New Jersey Department of Education for 31 years and is being honored for her notable tenure of service; and

Whereas, Dr. McDonald has been a strong leader at the Department of Education as evidenced by the numerous senior-level management positions she has held, including Assistant Commissioner of the Division of Student Services from October 2019 to the present, Acting Assistant Commissioner, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, and Director of the Office of Special Education; and

Whereas, as Assistant Commissioner, Dr. McDonald assisted school districts in navigating the provision of services to students with disabilities during the extraordinary disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas, Dr. McDonald’s work as Assistant Commissioner also included the administration of critical federal laws such as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Every Student Succeeds Act, and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and programs for bilingual education and migrant students; and

Whereas, as Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Dr. McDonald lead the development and implementation of the New Jersey Tiered System of Supports, which is the State’s framework for academic and behavior support and intervention and resulted in the receipt of a Federal grant in the amount of over \$5 million dollars to support the implementation of NJTSS in New Jersey schools.

Whereas, as Director of the Office of Special Education, Dr. McDonald ensured that students with disabilities had access to high-quality instruction and all of the programs and services offered to all students; and

Whereas, Dr. McDonald began her career in New Jersey public schools as a teacher of deaf or hard-of-hearing students at the elementary and middle school levels and served for many years as an adjunct instructor educating the next generation of teachers of deaf or hard-of-hearing students; and

Whereas, the New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes and appreciates Dr. McDonald’s sincere manner and thoughtful demeanor that accompanied her unwavering belief that all of New Jersey’s students are capable of greatness; now therefore be it

Resolved, that it is both fitting and proper that the New Jersey State Board of Education express its sincere gratitude to Dr. McDonald for her dedication to the students of New Jersey; and be it further

Resolved, that the New Jersey State Board of Education hereby honors Dr. McDonald for her esteemed record of service to the New Jersey Department of Education and extends best wishes for success and happiness in her retirement and future endeavors.

Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner
Acting Secretary, N.J. State Board of Education

Kathy Goldenberg, President
N.J. State Board of Education