

PROCLAMATION OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH IN HONOR OF DR. NEELY HACKETT

WHEREAS, Dr. Neely Hackett has faithfully served for 27 years as an educator and administrator for the well-being of children in communities throughout New Jersey and is a resident of Willingboro Township; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Neely Hackett has served as the Superintendent for Willingboro Public School District since April 2020 and is the only superintendent in its nearly 70-year history to conclude and start a public-school year in a virtual environment; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Neely Hackett led the creation of a comprehensive reopening plan for the Willingboro Public Schools grounded in providing students with a quality educational experience under the umbrella of an environment that is physically and emotionally safe for all using real-time data and information from the New Jersey Department of Education, the New Jersey Department of Health, the Burlington County Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control, and parent and staff surveys; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Neely Hackett established the theme for the 2020-2021 School Year a Quality Education: A Community Commitment and led the Willingboro Public School System to acquire more than \$3M additional dollars through grants during the COVID-19 Pandemic and advocated for Willingboro School District that ultimately led to approximately \$9.3M in relief funding through tireless advocacy and data driven requests through Local, State, and Federal elected officials; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Neely Hackett successfully reorganized the structure of the Willingboro Public School District and established a Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Core Beliefs and District Goals which did not previously exist to ensure all students become lifelong learners and productive citizens who are prepared to compete in a competitive, pluralistic, and ever-changing global society; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Neely Hackett is on pace to exceed all of the published 2020-2021 Willingboro Public School District goals while being the only African American woman serving as the Superintendent of a public school district in Burlington County, New Jersey.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Dr. Tiffani A. Worthy, Mayor of Township of Willingboro, along with the Willingboro Township Council, and Willingboro residents do hereby deem it an honor and pleasure to extend sincere appreciation in recognition of Dr. Neely Hackett, Superintendent of Willingboro Public Schools.

In Witness whereof I Hereunto Set My Hand And Seal of Willingboro

Township this 25th day of March 2021