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By:  Canales H.R. No. 368

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Dr. J. A. Gonzalez has been named 2020 Texas Superintendent of the Year by the Texas Association of School Boards; and

WHEREAS, Superintendent of the McAllen Independent School District since 2016, Dr. Gonzalez is widely admired for his commitment to inclusivity and student enrichment; he guides close monitoring of student progress in the district, which earned an "A" rating from the Texas Education Agency in both 2018 and 2019; McAllen ISD has garnered the state's Postsecondary Readiness Distinction for three consecutive years, and it has received perfect marks from the School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas for nine years in a row; in 2020, all five of the district's high schools were ranked among America's best by *U.S. News & World Report*; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gonzalez has launched many initiatives, including a STEAM-Plus teaching and learning framework, the Tech Wars robotics competition, the STRIDES Program for special needs graduates, and elementary UIL, chess, and robotics activities; meeting the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic with skill and compassion, he has kept students and faculty safe without missing a single day of instruction; moreover, the district has continued to provide meals for the community; and

WHEREAS, A dynamic educator with 25 years of experience, Dr. Gonzalez holds a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University-Kingsville and both a master's and a doctoral degree from The University of Texas-Pan American; he began his career with the district as a teacher and went on to serve as an assistant principal, principal, and associate superintendent for instructional leadership; along the way, he has served as a practicing lecturer in the Educational Leadership Department of UT-Rio Grande Valley; and

WHEREAS, Through his unwavering dedication to area students and staff, J. A. Gonzalez has led the way in fostering a supportive and challenging educational environment, and he has made valuable contributions to advancing public education in the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate J. A. Gonzalez on his selection as 2020 Texas Superintendent of the Year by the Texas Association of School Boards and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Dr. Gonzalez as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.