

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6021

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending the 2017 Kansas Master Teachers.

WHEREAS, Seven of Kansas' best teachers have been selected as Kansas Master Teachers for 2017. These seven outstanding educators will be honored on Wednesday, April 5, with a day of receptions, seminars and tours at the sponsoring institution, Emporia State University; and

WHEREAS, Local teacher associations, educational organizations and school faculties nominate candidates for the awards. A committee representing educational organizations from across Kansas selected the 2017 winners; and

WHEREAS, The 2017 Kansas Master Teachers are: Brandy Lane, a sixth grade teacher at Pauline South Intermediate School in Wakarusa; Kimberly Hett, a fifth grade teacher at Andover eCademy in Andover; Jennifer Hendrix, a physics teacher at Dodge City High School in Dodge City; Laura Schwinn, an A/V communications teacher at Emporia High School in Emporia; Joan Hayden, a physical education teacher at Fort Riley Middle School in Fort Riley; Melinda Eitel, a kindergarten teacher at Grace E. Stewart Elementary School in Salina; and John Butcher, an art teacher at Blue Valley Northwest High School in Overland Park; and

WHEREAS, Emporia State University established the Kansas Master Teacher Awards in 1953. The awards are presented annually to teachers who have served the profession long and well and who also exemplify the outstanding qualities of earnest and conscientious teachers; and

WHEREAS, Since 1980, Bank of America has pledged more than \$100,000 to permanently endow the Kansas Master Teacher Awards. In 1984, the Black family of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, established an endowed chair for Kansas Master Teachers. The fund provides a stipend to bring two Master Teachers to Emporia State University for part of a semester where they present to classes of education students; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Kansas House of Representatives recognize the invaluable contributions of great teachers such as those being honored today. These 2017 Master Teachers serve as mentors and role models and lay the groundwork for the best educators of tomorrow. They go above and beyond what is expected and offer inspiration, as well as instruction. They teach with heart and soul, and by giving the best of themselves, they encourage students to give their best in return: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate and commend the 2017 Kansas Master Teachers for demonstrating excellence in their profession and devotion to the children of Kansas; and

Be it further resolved: That we offer heartfelt thanks to these extraordinary educators who face so many challenges in the classroom each day, yet persevere, choosing the satisfaction of doing their best and overcoming the frustrations inherent in their jobs, and we extend our best wishes for their continued success and happiness.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.