



HR0611

LRB104 19330 ECR 32777 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Nick Polyak, an educator for 27 years, has
3 held the rank of school superintendent for 17 years; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Polyak has been the superintendent of Leyden
5 High School District #212 (Leyden District #212) since 2013;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Leyden District #212 includes students from
8 Franklin Park, Northlake, Rosemont, Schiller Park, River
9 Grove, Melrose Park, and unincorporated Leyden Township; and

10 WHEREAS, The students and families of Leyden District #212
11 represent a wide variety of identities, social classes, and
12 income levels; and

13 WHEREAS, The job of being the superintendent of a high
14 school district is often a lightning rod, with personnel,
15 parents, students, and taxpayers holding distinct and separate
16 opinions about the education of young people; and

17 WHEREAS, The challenges facing districts with identities
18 like Leyden #212 can make these differences of opinion even
19 stronger; and

1 WHEREAS, As a leader, Dr. Polyak has worked tirelessly to
2 bring separate groups together to discuss their issues and
3 concerns, and he has enabled the continued operation of Leyden
4 District #212 as a place of education and preparation for
5 young adults; and

6 WHEREAS, As a fiscal manager and planner, Dr. Polyak has
7 implemented more than \$200 million in Leyden District #212
8 facility modernization projects without raising local property
9 tax rates; and

10 WHEREAS, As an educational pioneer, Dr. Nick Polyak built
11 upon the 2012 pioneering move by Leyden District #212 to
12 become one of the first three school districts in the United
13 States to implement Chromebooks as an alternative learning
14 platform, and his continued push for enhancing e-learning
15 platforms positioned Leyden District #212 as one of only three
16 school districts to be approved for the 2015 Illinois
17 emergency e-learning pilot program and made Leyden District
18 #212 one of the best-prepared public school systems in
19 Illinois for implementation of the pandemic orders of March
20 2020; and

21 WHEREAS, As a promoter of student morale and self-esteem,
22 Dr. Polyak has expanded the universe of
23 lettered/quasi-lettered student experiences to cover e-sports

1 and flag football, joining the 29 interscholastic sports and
2 95 club activities offered in Leyden District #212; and

3 WHEREAS, As a friend of the educator profession of school
4 superintendency, Dr. Polyak has developed and taught the
5 Illinois Aspiring Superintendent Academy for over ten years;
6 in this Academy, he guided, taught, and, in some cases,
7 mentored more than 100 participants who are now serving as
8 superintendents throughout the State; and

9 WHEREAS, The Illinois Association of School Administrators
10 (IASA) works through an independent panel to discern and name
11 its roll of Superintendents of the Year; and

12 WHEREAS, In November 2025, the IASA named Dr. Polyak as
13 the 2026 Illinois Superintendent of the Year; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
15 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
16 we congratulate Dr. Nick Polyak on being honored as the 2026
17 Illinois Superintendent of the Year; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That we wish many years of continued executive
19 educator achievement for Dr. Polyak, the teachers that work
20 with him, and his executive educator staff; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That we look forward with eager anticipation to
2 the future achievements of the adults who have graduated from
3 or passed through the Leyden High School District #212 system,
4 with an eye to the grounding they have received from the social
5 capital achieved there; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to Dr. Polyak as a symbol of our esteem and respect.