



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the
3 State of Illinois are pleased to congratulate Riverview
4 Elementary School of South Beloit on being honored by the
5 Illinois State Board of Education and Northern Illinois
6 University with an Academic Improvement Award; and

7 WHEREAS, Four years ago, Riverview Elementary School was on
8 the State's academic watch list with only 30% of its third
9 graders meeting State standards in reading and 40% meeting
10 State standards in math; this year, about 90% of third graders
11 met the State's standards in math and 70% in reading; and

12 WHEREAS, To receive an Academic Improvement Award, schools
13 must make yearly progress, and their State test results must
14 show a trend of at least 7.5% improvement in scores between
15 2002 and 2003 or at least 15% improvement in scores between
16 2001 and 2003; and

17 WHEREAS, Much of the school's success can be attributed to
18 new programs initiated by Principal Scott Fisher; the teaching
19 curriculum was changed under his leadership, new textbooks and
20 computers were purchased, the student-teacher ratio was
21 lowered to 17 or 18 students in a class, 2 reading tutors and 2
22 paraprofessionals were hired, and the 40% to 50% yearly
23 turnover in teachers ended; and

24 WHEREAS, Riverview Elementary School was among 16 schools
25 from the State to be nominated by the State Board of Education
26 as a Blue Ribbon School; the nomination honors schools that
27 have made significant progress in closing achievement gaps;
28 therefore, be it

29 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
30 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we

1 congratulate Riverview Elementary School on being honored by
2 the Illinois State Board of Education and Northern Illinois
3 University with an Academic Improvement Award; and be it
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to Riverview Elementary School and to Principal Scott
7 Fisher as an expression of our respect and esteem.