Rodney Alexander Robinson
2019 National Teacher of the Year

WHEREAS, Rodney Alexander Robinson has been a Richmond Public Schools’ teacher for his entire professional career, teaching at Lucille Brown Middle School, George Wythe High School, Armstrong High School and Virgie Binford Education Center;

WHEREAS, Rodney Robinson, by serving students at Virgie Binford Education Center at the Richmond Juvenile Detention Center, works daily to disrupt the school-to-prison pipeline and advance the universal ideal that every student can learn and be successful; and

WHEREAS, Rodney Robinson was inspired to become a teacher to honor his mother, who wanted to become a teacher but struggled to receive an education due to segregation and poverty in rural Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Rodney Robinson has become an exemplar of equity-based teaching and leading with love by ensuring each of his students are provided with the unique tools, skills and supports they need to be successful; and

WHEREAS, Rodney Robinson is a lifelong learner himself, working constantly to refine his craft and seeking out opportunities to engage with education leaders across the nation; and

WHEREAS, Rodney Robinson is a pillar in his local community, serving on the City of Richmond Mayor’s Youth Academy, the Richmond Children’s Cabinet, and as the announcer for Armstrong High School athletics; and

WHEREAS, Rodney Robinson has been honored as the Richmond Public Schools 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year, Virginia’s Region 1 Teacher of the Year and the 2019 Virginia Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Rodney Robinson has been selected as the 2019 National Teacher of the Year by the Council of Chief State Schools Officers; and

WHEREAS, the National Teacher of the Year Program began in 1952 and continues as the oldest, most prestigious national honors program that focuses public attention on excellence in teaching; and
WHEREAS, Rodney Robinson will use the National Teacher of the Year platform to advocate for equitable education funding and more male teachers of color;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, the School Board of the City of Richmond and Richmond Public Schools do hereby congratulate Rodney Robinson as the 2019 National Teacher of the Year, and encourage all citizens to congratulate him on his recognition as the nation’s finest educator.

_Dawn Page_  
Chairman

_Jason Kamras_  
Superintendent

May 6, 2019