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# RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR MICHAEL GROVES

Dr. Michael D. Groves has announced his retirement as President of Oak Hill Academy effective July 31, 2024. Michael has served as President of Oak Hill Academy since 2002 and during his 22 years in that capacity, the Academy has thrived under his leadership.

Whereas, Michael arrived at Oak Hill Academy in the summer of 1998, initially serving as Instructor of Social Studies and Assistant soccer coach, then assuming the role of Dean of Students and then Director of Admissions prior to becoming President of the Academy.

Whereas, under Michael's leadership he has overseen the construction of 6 new buildings: Williams-Berry Dormitory, Speaks Dormitory, Dixon Dormitory, the Patton Triplex, the Collins Triplex and the Lenore Equestrian Center. He led the renovation of Fields Dormitory and the alumni Campus Store and had the vision to create an amphitheater which is used regularly by the campus community and to plant more than 50 oak trees on campus.

Whereas, he raised more than ten million dollars for the school, increased the endowment, kept the school out of debt, and created significant savings for future contingencies.

Whereas, he successfully led the school through challenging times including 9-11, the 2008 economic upheaval, political turmoil, and a worldwide pandemic.

Whereas, he maintained a strong alliance with Young's Chapel Baptist Church and forged innovative partnerships that provided stability for students in an era of monumental change.

Whereas, he ensured the Lenore Equestrian Program was endowed in perpetuity and gave the needed support to Oak Hill's basketball teams and their many winning national championships.

Whereas he along with his wife, Joy, have poured their time, talents, and life into the Academy, seeing not just bricks and mortar but the changing of young lives, creating space for teens to be mentored, loved, and to grow by the timeless mission of Oak Hill Academy, staying connected to students, knowing them by name.

Whereas, Michael leaves the 145 year-old Oak Hill Academy well positioned to receive its next generation of students and to experience its best days ahead.

Therefore Be It Resolved, that we, the members of the Baptist General Association of Virginia Executive Board meeting on September 5, 2024, express our appreciation to Dr. Michael D. Groves for his exemplary leadership at Oak Hill Academy. We pledge our prayerful support for Michael and Joy, their children, Matthew and Aaron, and their granddaughter Mary Frances in the next chapter of their lives.

Be it Further Resolved, that we ask the messengers at the Annual meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia on November 12, 2024, in Alexandria, Virginia to express on behalf of all Virginia Baptists our gratitude to God and our deepest appreciation for the contributions of Dr. Michael D. Groves.