

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING TYLER FINCH, LOVING HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHER,  
3 FOR BEING NAMED A MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARD HONOREE.

4  
5 WHEREAS, in a schoolwide assembly on April 19, 2022,  
6 Loving high school science teacher Tyler Finch received the  
7 surprise of a lifetime: a twenty-five-thousand-dollar  
8 (\$25,000) Milken educator award presented by the Milken  
9 family foundation; and

10 WHEREAS, Tyler was recognized for his outstanding  
11 innovation and creativity in motivating his students while  
12 preparing them for life after high school, college and  
13 beyond; and

14 WHEREAS, in announcing the award, the foundation noted  
15 that Tyler's expertise and creative use of technology to  
16 reach his students effectively, examine data to develop  
17 instructional practices and leverage his talent across the  
18 district are some of the exceptional attributes that make him  
19 a Milken educator award recipient; and

20 WHEREAS, Tyler earned a bachelor's degree in science in  
21 2013 and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction in  
22 2018 from eastern New Mexico university; and

23 WHEREAS, Tyler started college planning to be a doctor  
24 but, in his senior year, decided to pursue a career in  
25 education, and students at Loving high school are grateful

1 that he did; and

2 WHEREAS, Tyler chairs the district science department in  
3 Loving, and he has a unique ability to reach and motivate  
4 students, regardless of their background, and constantly  
5 adjusts his practices to meet their diverse needs; and

6 WHEREAS, to interest younger students in science,  
7 technology, engineering and mathematics subjects, advanced  
8 placement chemistry students host science nights for Loving's  
9 elementary school students; and

10 WHEREAS, more than eighty percent of Tyler's physical  
11 science students pass New Mexico end-of-course assessments,  
12 and, for chemical science, it is one hundred percent; and

13 WHEREAS, Tyler consistently examines student data to  
14 inform his instructional practices and helps colleagues  
15 become data devotees, too, and he developed an analytical  
16 tool that helps the district ensure that assessments are fair  
17 and meaningful; and

18 WHEREAS, Tyler sits on the school leadership team, has  
19 led districtwide professional development on student  
20 engagement and data analysis and recruits and mentors new  
21 teachers; and

22 WHEREAS, Tyler believes educators need to "stay ready so  
23 you don't have to get ready", a philosophy that came in handy  
24 during the pandemic when Tyler provided daily video  
25 instruction, learned Spanish so his monolingual students

1 could participate in online discussions and helped colleagues  
2 maximize their virtual instruction; and

3 WHEREAS, Tyler is well known in Loving, in part because  
4 he coaches football and track and created "falcon strong", a  
5 workout program for students that spans both field and  
6 classroom; and

7 WHEREAS, football players memorize his "falcon strong"  
8 creed at the start of the season: "I represent my family,  
9 school and community with honesty, integrity and courage.";  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, school leadership has since adapted the creed  
12 for the entire school;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
14 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that recognition be  
15 extended to Tyler Finch, Loving high school science teacher,  
16 for being named a Milken educator award honoree; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
18 transmitted to Tyler Finch.

19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25