

Illinois State Board of Education
Resolution



Honoring
Deborah Forsythe

Whereas, Deborah Forsythe has worked at the Beck Area Career Center in the Monroe/Randolph Regional Office of Education Alternative Education program since 1994 and in 2003 she introduced the *Outside the Box Improv Troupe*, a group of at-risk high school students studying the Illinois Learning Standards for elementary and middle school drama, music and physical education; and

Whereas, Ms. Forsythe has guided the troupe to present workshops at a growing number of elementary and middle schools each year for thousands of students and to entertain at senior citizen centers and local organizational meetings such as the Red Bud Rotary; and

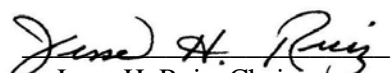
Whereas, Deborah and the troupe shifted the focus of their presentation in the 2007-08 school year to tackle bullying, creating “Captain Cool and the Courage Kids,” the program has been well-received and has reached more than 2,500 students with more workshops being scheduled for this school year; and

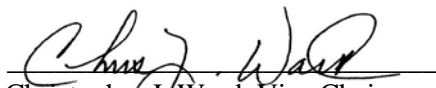
Whereas, the improv troupe under **Deborah’s** leadership has helped countless at-risk students gain confidence and pride and has proven to develop amazing leadership skills in participating students; and

Whereas, Ms. Forsythe has provided an opportunity for these students to develop bonds with each other as authors, actors and team members and those bonds have provided the impetus for many of the students to stay in school; and

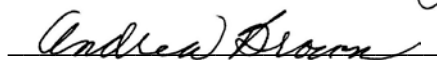
Whereas, when faced with limited funding **Deborah** has persevered using her own personal funds to purchase costumes and other needed items, and securing a grant from the St. Clement Foundation to cover the cost of substitutes and transportation expenses for the troupe; now

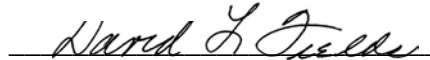
Therefore, be it resolved that the Illinois State Board of Education extends its sincere appreciation and deep respect to **Deborah Forsythe** on this 30th day of October 2009 for her outstanding contributions to education.

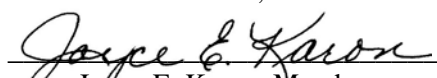

Jesse H. Ruiz, Chairman

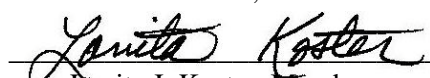

Christopher J. Ward, Vice Chairman


Vinni M. Hall, Secretary


Andrea Brown, Member


David L. Fields, Member


Joyce E. Karon, Member


Lanita J. Koster, Member