

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, classroom teachers are the cornerstone of our educational system. Classroom teachers have the greatest impact on the education of a child and so many opportunities to make lasting influences in the lives of so many; and

WHEREAS, Florida schools are filled with caring and qualified professionals who are helping students learn more and lead better lives. The Teacher of the Year program is an effort to honor a teacher who is a representative of all excellent teachers; and

WHEREAS, Lauren Huhta, a lifetime Ormond Beach resident and Seabreeze High School alumna, was named Volusia County Council for Elementary Exceptional Student Education (ESE)'s Teacher of the Year. Lauren has been at Ormond Beach Elementary for four years, but has been teaching in Volusia County for seven years. Her students range in age from kindergarten level through the fifth grade, and she currently works with eight groups a day on reading and math. Lauren describes herself as a ping-pong ball, due to the fast pace involved during those hours with her students; and

WHEREAS, Lauren always knew that she wanted to be a teacher. Growing up with twin cousins who have autism led her heart to ESE and taught her many things, including patience and acceptance. Individuals with learning disabilities are viewed by Lauren as simply different, and she prefers to call those differences exceptionalities. Lauren believes that everyone is capable of learning; however, everyone has their own pace and learning is never the same across the board; and

WHEREAS, Lauren is known for her tie-dye skills at Ormond Beach Elementary. She loves the colors and enjoys the craft, which started during her time at the University of Central Florida. It has become a rite of passage for all of her fifth-grade students to receive a tie-dyed shirt at the end of the year. Lauren has run into former students who continuously love to wear her shirts, even after leaving her classroom; and

WHEREAS, Lauren loves what she does. She is inspired to reach all learners and build connections with all of the students and colleagues she comes into contact with. Her favorite thing is to see her students succeed in the classroom. Lauren enjoys seeing their confidence increase and it makes her heart happy when her students are able to help others in areas where they previously had difficulty; and

WHEREAS, Lauren is the daughter of Ned Huhta, Information Technology Manager for the City of Ormond Beach. Both Ned and his wife, Pam, who also works for Volusia County Schools at Osceola Elementary School, are extremely proud of Lauren's accomplishments and admire her work with exceptional individuals.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Partington, Mayor of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 20, 2020, as a day to recognize

LAUREN HUHTA

in the City of Ormond Beach and encourage residents to join me in recognizing Lauren Huhta for her outstanding accomplishments, and dedication to her students and community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 20th day of October in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty.



BILL PARTINGTON
Mayor