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**Orange County Schools Board of Education
Proclamation to Honor and Recognize North Carolina's
Poet Laureate Jaki Shelton Green**

Whereas, The Orange County Schools district is a center for culturally diverse learning where all students are educated to their fullest potential; and

Whereas, Orange County Schools serves as a center of our community that embraces education of all students including the integration of the cultural and literary arts; and

Whereas, Art is integral to Orange County Schools and amplifies critical, analytical, and conceptual thinking, adding the creative power of personal, cultural and lived experience; and

Whereas, Jaki Shelton Green, has served twice as the North Carolina Poet Laureate and is the first African American and the third woman to hold this prestigious honor; and

Whereas, Jaki Shelton Green, a lifelong resident of Orange County, a former Orange County Schools student and parent, and a citizen of the world, has a deep personal connection to our local community and rich personal legacy of community service and advancement of the arts; and

Whereas, Jaki Shelton Green, as an ambassador of North Carolina's arts, has a deep understanding of our state's diverse communities and regions, and advocates passionately for the power of words to transform the learning and expression of our youth; and

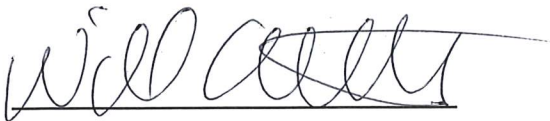
Therefore, be it resolved that the Orange County Schools Board of Education hereby:

Affirms that Orange County Schools celebrate the arts in all forms;

Affirms that Jaki Shelton Green advances our work through her commitment to the power of words and other art forms to enrich the lives our students and communities;

Affirms that Jaki Shelton Green engages, celebrates, and promotes activities that enhance the presence of poetry in Orange County Schools.

Adopted this the 22th day of May 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Atherton", written over a horizontal line.

Chair Orange County Schools
Will Atherton

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Monique Felder", written over a horizontal line.

Superintendent Orange County
Dr. Monique Felder