



**Vermont State Board of Education**

**Resolution of Appreciation**

**Rainbow Chen**

WHEREAS, Rainbow Chen has served with excellence and distinction on the State Board of Education from June 2015 through June 2017 and provided a strong and articulate student voice for all Vermont students; and

WHEREAS, from her first meeting, she has spoken up and done so with honesty, poise and forthrightness; and

WHEREAS, she has drawn from her experiences as a student at one of the most diverse schools in Vermont, as a member of her local school board, a member of the state wide music community, participant of the Governor's Institute on Asian Cultures, Finalist in the Bernie Sanders Essay contest, and as a daughter that works at her family's business; and

WHEREAS, she consistently advocated for groups she felt were disenfranchised and continued to do so throughout her tenure. One example was a resolution she crafted asking all educators "to continue to ensure that every school remains a safe and supportive place for New Americans as well as all other students and a place dedicated to helping all students succeed," and

WHEREAS, she has spoken at various meetings in Vermont and beyond, on opportunities for high school students to attend higher education, the importance of student voice, and personalized learning; and

WHEREAS, her leadership and student voice has been recognized by other states and resulted in Arkansas considering adding student representation to their State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, she has investigated the role of proficiency-based graduation requirements in an effort to improve policy at her school; and

WHEREAS, her comportment in these tasks is characterized by a pro-active and positive disposition that is a credit to Vermont students and to all Vermonters,

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED,**

That the State Board of Education bestows its appreciation and commendations to Rainbow Chen for her exemplary service; and

That it conveys the gratitude of the state for her stellar contributions with the firm assurance and belief that she will continue to make outstanding contributions to her state and society in the future.

DATED at Winooski, Vermont, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2017.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Krista Huling, Chair