

2023-J912

Senate Resolution No. 912

BY: Senator HARCKHAM

CONGRATULATING the Walter Panas High School Varsity Girls Basketball Team upon the occasion of capturing the NYSPHSAA Basketball Class A Championship on March 18, 2023

WHEREAS, Individual and team championships are highly sought after in high school sports; this Legislative Body commends rare athletic achievements and pays special recognition to those who pursue such excellence and become examples for the youth of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Athletic competition helps to enhance both the moral and physical development of young athletes, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the importance of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, and developing a sense of fair play and competition; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the Walter Panas High School Varsity Girls Basketball Team upon the occasion of capturing the 2023 NYSPHSAA Basketball Class A Championship; and

WHEREAS, To the praise and applause of their excited fans, the Lady Panthers defeated Canandaigua Academy in a decisive 61-51 victory to win their first championship in program history on Saturday, March 18, 2023, at Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, New York; and

WHEREAS, Proudly donning the school's colors of blue and gold, family, friends, and the community at large loyally and enthusiastically supported the Panthers throughout their journey as they ended their season with an impressive 23-5 overall record; and

WHEREAS, In a sport such as basketball, which demands athletic prowess, speed and agility, Head Coach Matt Evangelista and Assistant Coaches Brandon Thomas, Melissa Danko, and Mike Murphy have worked hard to hone the skills of this championship team, teaching these outstanding athletes lessons which will prove invaluable both on and off the court; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Matt Evangelista and all of the outstanding athletes on the Walter Panas High School Varsity Girls Basketball Team have clearly utilized dedication, determination and teamwork in providing a lasting contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of their school; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the members of the Walter Panas High School Varsity Girls Basketball Team: Kelsey Cregan, Julia Gallinger, Sarah Chiulli, Kara Mattson, Kaitlyn Wilkowski, Cadence Nicholas, Sofia Tavarez, Kiara Williams, Jillian Cinquina, Katie Hofmann, Kelly McAleese, and Emily Jankowski; Head Coach Matt Evangelista, and Assistant Coaches Brandon Thomas, Melissa Danko, and Mike Murphy upon the occasion of capturing the 2023 NYSPHSAA Basketball Class A Championship; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members of the Walter Panas High School Varsity Girls Basketball Team, Head Coach Matt Evangelista, and Assistant Coaches Brandon Thomas, Melissa Danko, and Mike Murphy.