

2013-J5497

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the dedication of the James R. Formato Athletic Field at South Middle School on May 31, 2014, and honoring this beloved educator

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the dedication of the James R. Formato Athletic Field at South Middle School on Saturday, May 31, 2014, and to honor this beloved educator; and

WHEREAS, James R. Formato was an assistant principal and science teacher in the Newburgh Enlarged City School District for many years; he was respected by his students, their families, and his peers, and his commitment to excellence, as well as his passion for improving the quality of people's lives, extended beyond the school buildings and into the broader community; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure as a science teacher at South Junior High School, James R. Formato organized an effort to make small gifts and baked goods for delivery by his students to the Veterans Administration Hospital, Goshen Senior Citizens' Center and St. Luke's Hospital Children's Wards during the holiday season; and

WHEREAS, In addition, he held Faculty-Student basketball games, led the Salvation Army Canned Food Drive, and established Ushers Group as well as Faculty and Staff Recognition Day; and

WHEREAS, As Chairman of the South Junior High School Science Fair, James R. Formato was the first science teacher at the school to win the New York State Outstanding Science Teacher Award for the Hudson Valley Region; and

WHEREAS, During his time as assistant principal at South Junior High

School, James R. Formato used student surveys to design a new school mascot, and founded the Engineering-Technology House, as well as the SJHS HAM Radio station which was used by several interested students who subsequently obtained radio licenses; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, James R. Formato established the Anthony M. Formato Memorial Trophy for the school's top scholar-athlete, and received an award from the New York State Administrator's Association for the student newsletter; and

WHEREAS, James R. Formato clearly had an enduring impact on the youth of the Newburgh Enlarged School District, as well as on the community-at-large, and accordingly merits just tribute and recognition for the impressive dedication he had for others throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, The dedication of the athletic field of the South Middle School where James R. Formato led with such talent, zeal, and joy is a fitting tribute to an individual who brought honor and dignity to the field of education; and

WHEREAS, The James R. Formato Athletic Field will long endure as an inspiration and legacy to future generations of students, staff and faculty at South Middle School and the entire Newburgh Enlarged City School District; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the dedication of the James R. Formato Athletic Field at South Middle School in Newburgh, New York on May 31, 2014, and to honor this beloved educator; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to James R. Formato.