

2013-J5583

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Capital Area School Development Association upon the occasion of being selected to receive the 2014 University at Albany President's Award for Exemplary Community Engagement on April 25, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Capital Area School Development Association in partnership with University at Albany's School of Education and Washington-Saratoga-Warren-Hamilton-Essex BOCES upon the occasion of being selected to receive the 2014 University at Albany President's Award for Exemplary Community Engagement, which was celebrated at an Awards Ceremony at the University at Albany, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed award honors University at Albany-community partnerships which are enhancing public well-being in the Capital Region and beyond; their community engagement is a collaboration between higher education institutions and external partners in the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources to address areas of public need; and

WHEREAS, The Capital Area School Development Association's initiative is working with rural districts to address financial and instructional challenges, and ensure their students receive a quality 21st century education; and

WHEREAS, In partnership with Washington-Saratoga-Warren-Hamilton-Essex (WSWHE) BOCES, the Capital Area School Development Association has

worked with seven school districts in Washington County to study and identify opportunities for shared services and increased efficiencies; participating districts are: Argyle, Cambridge, Fort Ann, Granville, Hartford, Hudson Falls, and Salem; and

WHEREAS, Completed in 2012, the study has yielded such important results as the creation of a distance learning program in six of the districts that did not have one, as well as a Distance Learning Hub for the districts to host and receive classes from each other; in addition, four districts have agreed to share a Chief Information Officer as part of a service through the WSWHE BOCES; and

WHEREAS, A long tradition of community-engaged research and service, the Capital Area School Development Association is the 65-year-old field arm of the School of Education, translating university research into educational practice; and

WHEREAS, An independent membership organization, the Capital Area School Development Association currently has over 100 participating school districts; and

WHEREAS, Since 1949, the Capital Area School Development Association has worked with member school districts to improve student achievement and provide professional development for teachers, administrators, and board members; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body that when individuals and organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Capital Area School Development Association upon the occasion of being selected to receive the 2014 University at Albany President's

Award for Exemplary Community Engagement on April 25, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to the Capital Area School Development Association.