

2013-J5709

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Arlene Wishnew upon the occasion of her retirement after many years of distinguished service to the Vincent Smith School

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly acknowledge individuals of remarkable integrity and character whose endeavors have enhanced the quality of education in this great State; and

WHEREAS, The result of many individual efforts, the excellence and the success of the Vincent Smith School is due in large part to the efforts of Arlene Wishnew; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Arlene Wishnew upon the occasion of her retirement after many years of distinguished service to the Vincent Smith School; this momentous occasion will be celebrated with a Retirement Party in her honor on Sunday, June 8, 2014, at The Swan Club, Roslyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, in honor of Arlene Wishnew, the Board of Trustees will establish The Wishnew Educational Scholarship Fund, which will provide tuition assistance to current and future Vincent Smith School students; and

WHEREAS, A true inspiration and mentor, Arlene Wishnew served the Vincent Smith School for more than three decades; she will officially retire from the esteemed position of Head of School at the end of the current school year; and

WHEREAS, Arlene Wishnew received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Long Island University C.W. Post College; after more than 30 years, Arlene Wishnew approaches each day at Vincent Smith School (VSS) with the same enthusiasm she did when she drove on campus for the first time; and

WHEREAS, Arlene Wishnew joined the VSS staff as a lower school classroom teacher before accepting multiple responsibilities as a Remedial Reading Teacher and high school English/Math Teacher; she later moved up the ranks to Principal before assuming the responsibility of Head of School; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous direction of Arlene Wishnew, VSS provides a place for children which allows them to feel safe, nurtured and motivated to succeed; more than 85% of its students go on to college and others on to post high school vocational programs; and

WHEREAS, Arlene Wishnew is an active member of the educational community and several professional organizations including, the Council for Exceptional Children, the Nassau Counselors Association, the Long Island Association of Special Education Administrators, the National Center for Learning Disabilities, CHADD, the International Dyslexia Association, and the Clamdiggers (Heads of School on Long Island); and

WHEREAS, A caring, competent and committed leader, Arlene Wishnew's character and integrity are the hallmarks of her life and work as a school district leader, a community volunteer and as a person; her quiet approach and caring attitude creates confidence and loyalty among colleagues and friends alike; and

WHEREAS, The Port Washington Community is indeed fortunate and blessed to have such a dedicated and respected educational leader for more than three decades; her wisdom and contributions reached into every classroom, and she truly made a difference in the lives of those lucky enough to have worked with her; and

WHEREAS, Arlene Wishnew has continually demonstrated an impressive dedication, an unparalleled devotion and an unremitting enthusiasm for the quality of the educational programs and opportunities offered at the

Vincent Smith School for the benefit of its faculty and students, as well as for the entire community; and

WHEREAS, In completing her service as Head of School, Arlene Wishnew

leaves behind more than mere bricks and mortar; she leaves behind a legacy to the residents of the Port Washington community and to future generations of its students; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Arlene Wishnew upon the occasion of her retirement, and for her significant contributions to education in New York State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Arlene Wishnew.