

2015-J2312

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Sheila Huggins, Principal of PS98Q, upon the occasion of her retirement after many distinguished years as an educator

WHEREAS, New York State's commitment to education is unparalleled; its history and stature are secured by the superlative caliber of its educational professionals and the students they inspire; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of those outstanding educational leaders, whose dedication and achievements have been instrumental in developing character and academic excellence in the young people of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Sheila Huggins upon the occasion of her retirement after many years of dedicated service in education; she is officially retiring as Principal of PS98Q, a position she has held for the past 23 years, and will be honored by the school on Wednesday, May 27, 2015; and

WHEREAS, A native of Queens, New York, Sheila Huggins always wanted to be a teacher; she was raised by parents who encouraged a love of learning; her father, who affectionately called her "Sugie", was a self-educated man who taught her the joy of good music, to always have faith, and most especially stimulated her love of books; and

WHEREAS, Many of her fondest memories are of her father reading to her when she was young, something she speaks of often and emulates every month with her readings to students; and

WHEREAS, In 1968, Sheila Huggins graduated from Andrew Jackson High School, and was granted a scholarship to attend New York University, from which she graduated with honors in 1972 with a degree in early

childhood education; and

WHEREAS, Sheila Huggins immediately went through the then grueling oral exam process to become a Kindergarten teacher, working in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens; after 11 years teaching at PS186 in Glen Oaks, Queens, she was urged to apply for the Danforth Fellow Assistant Principals Program at CCNY; upon completing the program, she interned at PS173 in Fresh Meadows, followed by Assistant Principal assignments at two other Fresh Meadows schools - PS26 and JHS216; and

WHEREAS, In 1992, Sheila Huggins was appointed Principal of PS98Q; since then, she has been influencing the direction of student lives and learning; and

WHEREAS, Educators like Sheila Huggins provide a tremendous service to the future of our State and Nation, inspiring generations of young people in their educational journeys and ensuring their success in their future years; and

WHEREAS, Sheila Huggins has clearly had an enduring impact on the youth of the PS98Q, as well as on the community-at-large, and accordingly merits recognition and applause for her impressive dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those individuals who work to support our proud tradition of public education by providing their skills and talents to our schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Sheila Huggins upon the occasion of her retirement after many years of dedicated service in education, 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 Sheila Huggins.