

2015-J4423

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Bayside High School in Queens, New York, upon the occasion of celebrating its 80th Anniversary on March 16, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those institutions of commitment and high achievement whose purpose and endeavors prove a dedication to the pursuit of excellence in the education of the youth of this noble Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Bayside High School in Queens, New York, upon the occasion of celebrating its 80th Anniversary on Wednesday, March 16, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Bayside High School will commemorate this auspicious milestone with a myriad of events planned throughout the year by the Friends of Bayside High School, an alumni/community-based organization; and

WHEREAS, Bayside High School, Samuel J. Tilden High School, Abraham Lincoln High School, John Adams High School, Walton High School, Andrew Jackson High School, and Grover Cleveland High School were all built during the Great Depression from one set of blueprints, in order to save money; and

WHEREAS, Bayside High School was the first school building in the City to be constructed using Federal funds, built by the Public Works Administration from 1934-1936 at the cost of \$2.5 million; and

WHEREAS, On March 16, 1936, Bayside High School opened the doors for the first time to its students under the leadership of Principal Dr.

George W. Crane; a four-year public high school located in Bayside, in the New York City borough of Queens, the School is overseen by the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE); and

WHEREAS, In 1978, the Bayside High School music program, then under

the guidance of John Benza, was among the first secondary schools in the Nation to purchase and teach Music Synthesis on a synthesizer, the Roland System 100; and

WHEREAS, For eight decades, Bayside High School has strived to ensure that all of its students have access to a high-quality education which prepares them for the rigors of college and the workforce; today, approximately 3,300 students are enrolled at the School; and

WHEREAS, Bayside High School is recognized as one of the highest performing schools in the New York City Department of Education, earning an "A" three years in a row on the 2010-2011, 2011-2012, and 2012-2013 NYCDOE Progress Reports; and

WHEREAS, Bayside High School students are selectively admitted into six innovative programs including Digital Art and Design, Music: Performance and Production, Environmental Engineering and Technology, Humanities and Non-Profit Management, Computer Programming and Web Design, and Sports Medicine and Management; and

WHEREAS, These incredible curricula offer students the opportunity to earn college credits, participate in industry internships and learn more about careers in their chosen field; and

WHEREAS, Exceptional students are given the option of enrolling in numerous Advanced Placement (AP) courses including Art History, Biology, Calculus AB/Calculus BC, Chinese Language and Culture, Comparative Government and Politics, Computer Science A, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Environmental Science, Latin: Vergil, Psychology, Spanish Language, Statistics, Studio Art, United States Government and Politics, and United States History, as well as World History; and

WHEREAS, Today, under the luminous leadership of Principal, Michael Athy, Bayside High School proudly boasts a 92% 4-year graduation rate, as well as 91% of all students graduating within six years, exceptionally high for a New York City High School; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, this vital educational institution has pioneered Whole Child Guidance practices and is further improving curriculum through the additions of internships and of numerous college-accredited courses; in addition, Bayside High School has received positive recognition for closing the achievement gap for minority students, English Language Learners (ELL) and students with Special Needs; and

WHEREAS, The steadfast and unyielding commitment of parents, educators and administrators to provide the highest quality education for students has become the hallmark and tradition of Bayside High School; and

WHEREAS, Within the 21st Century, Bayside High School stands prepared to reach out, in earnest and enthusiastic quest of its mission, to promote the maximum growth of every student, establishing standards and building skills which will carry its students and the citizens of its community into the future; and

WHEREAS, Bayside High School is proudly aware of its distinguished past, eager to fulfill its present commitment to parents, students and the community, and planning with vision and purpose for the ebb and swell of growth and change it will encounter in the years to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Bayside High School in Queens, New York, upon the occasion of celebrating its 80th Anniversary on March 16, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Michael Athy, Principal, Bayside High School.