

2015-J6128

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 75th Anniversary of Forest Hills High School

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 commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Forest Hills High School; and

WHEREAS, When Forest Hills High School opened its doors on February 3, 1941, the building was hailed as an architectural masterpiece with its simplified Georgian style architecture and a commanding view of Flushing Meadows-Corona Park; and

WHEREAS, It quickly developed a reputation for excellence and made history as the first school to produce three Westinghouse Scholars in one year, a result of its strong science program which was designed to reflect an actual research environment; and

WHEREAS, Forest Hills High School offers specialized academic opportunities for which thousands of applicants vie for a limited number of coveted seats; students accepted into these advanced programs have the opportunity to work with FHHS' partners in the community including social service organizations, hospitals, Columbia University, Queens College, CUNY's four year and community colleges, technical schools, not-for-profit organizations, and the office of the Queens County District Attorney, among others; and

WHEREAS, Forest Hills High School has many distinguished alumni including composers, actors, authors, musicians, athletes, jurists, physicians and business leaders including such notable persons as Grammy

Award Winning singers/songwriters Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel; author Ronald Chernow; U.S. Court of Appeals Chief Judge Robert Katzman; U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Jacob J. Lew; opera singer Tatiana Troyanos; NBA player Moe Harkless; and punk-rock pioneers, The Ramones, to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Many extracurricular activities and clubs give students the opportunity to explore current interests and discover new ones such as student government, peer mediation, honor societies, performing arts, foreign language, future business leaders, moot court, mock trial, multicultural, Shakespeare, cheerleading, yearbook, and We the People competition; and

WHEREAS, Forest Hills High School is a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence committed to academic excellence and preparation for college as well as developing community and citizenship skills in a multicultural society; and

WHEREAS, Principal Saul Gootnick has led Forest Hills High School staff and students on a quest to achieve the highest academic potential for all students, serving its multicultural population with a challenging curriculum; and

WHEREAS, Forest Hills High School has earned an "A" on the New York State report card for four years in a row, the only large high school in Queens to achieve that milestone; and

WHEREAS, Seeking to support its students to achieve college readiness, improve school-wide attendance, promote the role of parents as active partners in their child's education and infuse the use of technology in all classes, Forest Hills High School truly embodies its motto, "It all Begins and Ends in the Classroom"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Forest Hills High School for 75 years of excellence in education and for being a public high school of the highest caliber; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Saul Gootnick, Principal, Forest Hills High School.