

2015-J6238

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Rashid Ferrod Davis upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Black Caucus of the Council for School Administrators on June 11, 2016

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 custom of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the accomplishments of those distinguished 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 honor Rashid Ferrod Davis upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Black Caucus of the Council for School Administrators, to be celebrated at its Legendary Luncheon on Saturday, June 11, 2016, at Terrace on the Park, Flushing, New York; and

WHEREAS, Rashid Ferrod Davis is the Founding Principal of Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) who has more than 20 years of experience working in the New York City Department of Education as a teacher, assistant principal, and, most recently, the Principal of Bronx Engineering and Technology Academy (BETA); and

WHEREAS, P-TECH is the first of what is now a network of more than 60 grades 9-14 schools across Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, Maryland, New York and Texas; the continent of Australia is the first to replicate P-TECH outside of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Launched in September of 2011, as a partnership between IBM, the New York City Department of Education, the City University of New York, and the New York City College of Technology, P-TECH was designed

to serve an unscreened population, with no admissions requirements beyond showing interest; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous direction of Rashid Ferrod Davis, in June of 2015, six P-TECH students graduated two years ahead of the full maturation of the model, and in December an additional five graduated; each of these 11 students were offered job opportunities with IBM; and

WHEREAS, On February 12, 2013, President Barack Obama mentioned P-TECH in the State of the Union address, and in October of the same year, the President visited the school, praising it as a vital institution which should be available to all students in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Rashid Ferrod Davis has been invited to the White House and participated in a session on High School Redesign with the Secretary of the Department of Education, the Acting Secretary of the Department of Labor, the Deputy Director of the Domestic Policy Council, and the Director of the National Economic Council; he has also participated in a brainstorming session with national leaders on STEM schools; and

WHEREAS, Rashid Ferrod Davis has mentored more than 15 aspiring school building leaders through Baruch College's Scaffolded Apprenticeship Model, Fordham University's Educational Leadership Program Enhancement Project, the New York City Leadership Academy, New York City's Leaders in Education Apprenticeship Program, Touro College, and the Center for Integrated Teacher Education (CITE); and

WHEREAS, This esteemed man is a graduate of Morehouse College with advanced degrees from Pace University, Teachers College, Columbia University, and Fordham University; and

WHEREAS, In 2011, Rashid Ferrod Davis was one of the Council for School Administrators' (CSA) members featured in its back to school

campaign; he is also a 2012 Cahn Fellow, Program for Distinguished New York City Principals through Teachers College, Columbia University; and

WHEREAS, Rashid Ferrod Davis is the proud recipient of numerous awards and accolades including the 2014 Distinguished Service Award, the Lewis

Hines Award from the National Child Labor Committee, and the 2015 New York Daily News Education Hometown Hero; and

WHEREAS, The future success of our State and Nation is dependent upon individuals such as Rashid Ferrod Davis, who dedicate their lives as educators, nurturing our most precious resource, our youth; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to now record its recognition and appreciation in honoring an outstanding educational leader, whose dedication and achievements have been instrumental in developing character and academic excellence in his students; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Rashid Ferrod Davis upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Black Caucus of the Council for School Administrators on June 11, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rashid Ferrod Davis.