

## 2015-J6262

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Walter Aksionoff upon the occasion of his retirement after 42 years of distinguished service 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 custom 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 honor Principal Walter Aksionoff upon the occasion of his retirement after 42 years of distinguished service as an educator; and

WHEREAS, For the past 24 years, Walter Aksionoff has served as the Principal of the Dutch Broadway School; throughout his 42 year career in the Elmont Union Free School District, he has by word and action, created a warm, positive, learning environment in one of the largest elementary schools in Nassau County; and

WHEREAS, Currently, approximately 780 students are enrolled at Dutch Broadway School; each September, the School welcomes 120 new entrants from every part of the State of New York, the Nation, and the World; and

WHEREAS, As Principal, Walter Aksionoff truly believes in the extraordinary capability and potential of all his students; under his luminous leadership, the Dutch Broadway School stands as an outstanding example of the victories which can be achieved with effective school leadership and a commitment to both school improvement and academic excellence; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Dutch Broadway School is in direct corre-

lation to the efforts of Principal Walter Aksionoff and his staff, whose involvement is and always have been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the institution and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, For its true purpose and high achievement, the Dutch Broadway School has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades including the National School Change Certificate of Recognition by the American Association of School Administrators, Pearson Foundation, Fordham University; The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth Certificate of Recognition for support of students with high academic potential in the Johns Hopkins Talent Search; and the Reading Challenge Award; as well as the Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Educational Improvement by the Business Council of New York State; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the Dutch Broad School was named both a 2004 and 2005 High Performing/Gap Closing School by the New York State Education Department; the School is also regularly featured on such media outlets as Cablevision, Channel 18; in 2004, their Educator of the Week was reported on "Channel 55 News," and they were highlighted in the NEW YORK TIMES in January of 2006; and

WHEREAS, Devoted to his educational community, Principal Walter Aksionoff holds the position of President of the Elmont Elementary Administrators' Association, and has served on district-wide committees to develop and adopt the Elmont Comprehensive Educational Plan, the Elmont Shared Decision-Making Plan, and the District Technology Committee; and

WHEREAS, A skilled and inspirational tutor, respected for his ability to develop potential into excellence, Principal Walter Aksionoff serves as the Associate Head Coach of the Malverne High School Boys Varsity

Basketball team; under his guidance, the Malverne Mules won the 2007 New York State Public High School Championship and the New York State "Class B" Federation Championship in 2007, 2008 and 2014; and

WHEREAS, Principal Walter Aksionoff integrates his coaching and leadership skills at Dutch Broadway School by mentoring the Lions throughout the New York State Assessment preparation period; each year, he installs all third graders to Dutch Broadway Lion status at a Pep Rally in the School Gymnasium; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to his profession, Principal Walter Aksionoff is a proud member of many organizations such as the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, National Association of Elementary School Principals Association, the International Reading Association and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics; and

WHEREAS, After his much deserved retirement, Walter Aksionoff plans on spending more time with his beloved family and volunteering his time and energy to the Baldwin community; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Susan; and his four children, Melissa (Ken), Matthew, Lauren and Kristen, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Educators like Walter Aksionoff 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, Walter Aksionoff has clearly had an enduring impact on the youth of the Dutch Broadway School, as well as on the community-at-large, and accordingly merits recognition and applause for his 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 Walter Aksionoff upon the occasion of his retirement after 42 years of dedicated service in education, and for his significant

contributions to education in New York State; and to wish him continued success in all of his future endeavors; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Walter Aksionoff.