## **SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 476**

Offered February 20, 2009

Commending Diane M. Reese.

Patron—Ticer

WHEREAS, Dr. Diane Reese from T.C. Williams High School is commended for her selection as one of the top 10 school counselors in America by the American School Counselor Association and Naviance, a company that specializes in planning and advising systems for secondary schools; and

WHEREAS, the School Counselor of the Year Award is open to all 100,000 members of the school counseling profession; Dr. Diane Reese was one of 400 elementary, middle, and high school counselors nominated for the award; and

WHEREAS, the top 10 counselors were chosen for creative school counseling innovations, effective counseling programs, leadership skills, and contributions to student advancement; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Diane Reese works at T.C. Williams High School of the Alexandria City Public Schools, where she provides counseling at the STEP Center, which handles at-risk students struggling with academic and other issues; and

WHEREAS, an innovative and dedicated counselor, Dr. Diane Reese has developed several unique programs for her students, including Project GOAL (Girls Having Opportunities for Academic Success and Leadership Development), an after-school leadership program, and the Reading Circle Club, a literacy program that engages staff and students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Diane Reese's hard work and dedication extend beyond working with her students to include their parents; as the school's parent-involvement coordinator, she initiated "Take Your Parent to School Day"; and

WHEREAS, committed to her profession, Dr. Diane Reese serves on the Advisory Board of the Graduate School of Counseling at George Washington University, where she completed her Ph.D. program; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Diane Reese's selection as one of the top 10 school counselors in America serves as a reminder of the importance of school counselors to the youth of Virginia; school counselors have unique training and qualifications that can help students reach their full potential; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend Diane M. Reese for her selection as one of the top 10 school counselors in the nation; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Diane M. Reese as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for her dedication to the youth of Alexandria City Public Schools.