

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 249

*Commending Amanda C. Ash.*

Agreed to by the Senate, March 10, 2010  
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 11, 2010

WHEREAS, Amanda C. Ash, an exemplary high school English teacher and department chair at the Open Campus Center, was named the 2009 Virginia Beach City Public Schools Citywide Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Amanda Ash was chosen from an initial pool of 88 teachers and was one of 10 semi-finalists selected to receive classroom visits by the Teacher of the Year Selection Committee; five finalists were then individually interviewed by the committee; and

WHEREAS, the Open Campus Center is a flexible, accelerated, alternative school (grades 9-12), where older high school students and adults can successfully complete courses toward a high school diploma or its equivalent; and

WHEREAS, an innovative and enthusiastic teacher, Amanda Ash encourages the use of technology in her classrooms, including the creation of digital portfolios where students can explore ideas and put their own stamp on their work; and

WHEREAS, Amanda Ash provides a supportive environment in the classroom where students can experience growth as writers and as people as they work to complete their secondary education; as department chair, she is a motivator of her fellow teachers in their efforts; and

WHEREAS, a teacher for six years, Amanda Ash has been the recipient of a variety of awards and recognitions, including being named a 2007 School Star by the Virginia Department of Education's Office of School Improvement; Distinguished Educator by the Open Campus Center in 2007; "Tagged by the Superintendent" honor in 2004 and 2006; and the "I Make a Difference" ribbon in 2005 and 2007; and

WHEREAS, Amanda Ash received a bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia and a master's degree from Old Dominion University; and

WHEREAS, a talented and dedicated educator, Amanda Ash epitomizes the vital role of innovative teachers in the education of Virginia's children; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend Amanda C. Ash on her selection as the 2009 Virginia Beach City Public Schools Citywide Teacher of the Year; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Amanda C. Ash as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and gratitude for her commitment to the students of Virginia Beach.

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