

2011 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 962

Commending Mantua Elementary School on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 23, 2011

Agreed to by the Senate, February 25, 2011

WHEREAS, Mantua Elementary School, a Fairfax County Public School, celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Mantua Elementary School now serves approximately 900 students from families in Mantua and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, Mantua Elementary School has undergone several changes over the years—in 1969 a gymnasium and pod areas were added; in 1983 a creative playground was built; and in 1997 Mantua Elementary underwent major renovations, which added an additional wing to the building, a new media center, distance learning center, and more classroom space; and

WHEREAS, Mantua Elementary School has been ably served over the years by principals Robert L. Lane, Patsy Costolo, Regenia Dalton, Joseph Ross, Ellen Schoetzau, and Jan-Marie Fernandez, and both Ellen Schoetzau, in 1999, and Jan-Marie Fernandez, in 2010, were chosen as National Distinguished Principals for Virginia; and

WHEREAS, today, 128 dedicated faculty and support staff work diligently to instruct and nurture preschool through sixth grade students in 42 classrooms at Mantua Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Mantua Elementary School, since 1975, has facilitated the growth and development of deaf and hard-of-hearing students who use American Sign Language in preschool through sixth grade and has maintained a 25-year partnership with Gallaudet University to support the training and development of teachers of the deaf and other specialists; and

WHEREAS, Mantua Elementary School has received many awards and accolades including the 2009, 2010, and 2011 Governor's Award for Educational Excellence; the first Gold Award for the Governor's Nutrition and Physical Activity Awards Program in 2005 and in subsequent years; the PTA state Take Your Family to School Week Award in 2009; and first place in the Continental Math League Competition in 2010; and

WHEREAS, for decades, Mantua Elementary School has remained an integral part of civic life in Fairfax, serving as a venue for civic association and club meetings, election debates, and other public gatherings; and

WHEREAS, the administration, faculty and staff of Mantua Elementary School work together to constantly improve all aspects of the students' educational experiences with special emphasis on the thoughtful integration of technology, development of the whole child, the application of brain and learning research, exposure to Italian, and all aspects of the arts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Mantua Elementary School on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Jan-Marie Fernandez, Principal of Mantua Elementary School, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for the school's commitment to its students.

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