

2013 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 822

Offered February 1, 2013

Commending South River Elementary School.

Patrons—Landes, Bell, Richard P. and Wilt; Senator: Hanger

WHEREAS, South River Elementary School in Grottoes was one of only seven public schools in the Commonwealth to be selected as a 2012 United States Department of Education Blue Ribbon School award winner; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Education Blue Ribbon School Program honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools in two categories: Exemplary High Performing and Exemplary Improving; and

WHEREAS, South River Elementary School, one of only 269 in the nation named as a Blue Ribbon School and the first school in Rockingham County to earn the coveted recognition, received the award in the Exemplary High Performing category; and

WHEREAS, South River Elementary School students thrive in a creative, supportive learning environment under the leadership of principal Larry Shifflett and assistant principal Ashley Houff, one of whom meets with each and every student before the Standards of Learning tests; and

WHEREAS, South River Elementary School students receive instruction from a host of dedicated and knowledgeable teachers and also prepare for the Standards of Learning with practice tests; and

WHEREAS, from 2006 to 2011, South River Elementary School students averaged a 94 percent passing rate in math and 93 percent passing rate in reading for grades three through five, with 2012 students earning an 86 percent passing rate in math and a 98 percent passing rate in reading; and

WHEREAS, South River Elementary School students learned about the school winning the award at a special assembly and principal Larry Shifflett traveled to Washington, D.C., to receive the Blue Ribbon plaque and flag at a ceremony on November 12 & 13, 2012; and

WHEREAS, South River Elementary School's selection as a Blue Ribbon School is a reflection of the outstanding work of its students; the exemplary leadership of Larry Shifflett; the ongoing dedication of other administrators, teachers, and staff; and the enthusiastic support of parents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend South River Elementary School as a United States Department of Education Blue Ribbon School award winner; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Larry Shifflett, principal of South River Elementary School, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for the school's commitment to the young people of Rockingham County.

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