HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 518

Commending Twin Hickory Elementary School.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 23, 2015 Agreed to by the Senate, February 19, 2015

WHEREAS, Twin Hickory Elementary School in Henrico County has been named a 2014 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors schools throughout the United States that demonstrate academic excellence or have made major gains in students' academic achievement; Twin Hickory Elementary School is one of only 10 schools in Virginia to receive the designation in 2014; and

WHEREAS, the prestigious Blue Ribbon Schools awards are given to public and private schools; they affirm that hard work by students, educators, families, and communities can foster a safe and welcoming environment where students can master challenging content; and

WHEREAS, to enhance students' learning experiences and opportunities, Twin Hickory Elementary School benefits from community partnerships and innovative programs such as the outdoor Learning Garden, which contains 30 raised beds and a fully functioning greenhouse; and

WHEREAS, Twin Hickory Elementary School works to instill strong leadership traits in students; in the 2014-2015 academic year, the school will use its theme of "Trailblazing Around the World" to promote originality, humility, diversity, and wellness; and

WHEREAS, Twin Hickory Elementary School, which is in western Henrico County, is one of the county's most diverse elementary schools; its student body represents more than 35 countries and 27 languages; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Twin Hickory Elementary School for being honored as a 2014 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Michael Dussault, principal of Twin Hickory Elementary School, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for the school community's hard work and outstanding achievement.