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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 527

Offered March 7, 2016

Commending the Loudoun County Public Schools Student Records Department.

Patrons—Bell, John J., Cole, Greason, Hope, Krizek, LaRock, Lindsey, Murphy, Rasoul, Tyler and Ware; Senators: Favola, Surovell, Vogel and Wexton

WHEREAS, the Loudoun County Public Schools Student Records Department is working to enrich the understanding of Loudoun County's history and heritage by building a database to preserve the historical records of African American students prior to the integration of local schools; and

WHEREAS, much information on Loudoun County schools from 1914 to 1964 was considered lost for many years, until a cache of records was discovered behind the stairway of a semi-abandoned schoolhouse; Donna Kroiz of the Loudoun County Public Schools Student Records Department realized the importance of the documents and saved them from destruction; and

WHEREAS, the Loudoun County Public Schools Student Records Department used the cache of records, supplemented by archives from the Loudoun County Circuit Court, the Library of Virginia, and private collections, to better understand public education in Loudoun County in the first half of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, the Loudoun County Public Schools Student Records Department's database contains unique hand-written documents, photographs, and correspondence on Civil Rights matters; the database also contains the names of nearly every African American student educated in Loudoun County during a certain period, as well as where they were educated and who instructed them; and

WHEREAS, by increasing knowledge of the past, the members of the Loudoun County Public Schools Student Records Department—Sue Hall, Cheryl Butler, Donna Kroiz, Rachel Johnson, Rich Contartesi, and Larry W. Roeder, Jr.—have helped ensure a stronger future for Loudoun County Public Schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Loudoun County Public Schools Student Records Department for preserving the rich history and heritage of education in Loudoun County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Loudoun County Public Schools Student Records Department as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the department's hard work and diligence in service to past and present members of the Loudoun County community.

INTRODUCED

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