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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 178

Offered February 25, 2016

*Commending Rosa Parks Elementary School.*

Patrons—McPike and Surovell

WHEREAS, in 2016, Rosa Parks Elementary School in Prince William County celebrates its 10th anniversary of providing a top-quality education to more than 820 students in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade; and

WHEREAS, the students and staff at Rosa Parks Elementary School are proud of the school's international focus; more than 27 languages are spoken by members of the school community and an English for Speakers of Other Languages program serves pupils who are learning English; and

WHEREAS, Rosa Parks Elementary School, which opened in 2006, is in the forefront of education for boys and girls; it was the first elementary school in Prince William County to be named an International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program school; and

WHEREAS, additionally, Rosa Parks Elementary School, which is in Woodbridge, has been designated a School of Excellence for nine consecutive years by the Prince William County Division of Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, the Story Room at Rosa Parks Elementary School helps promote literacy among its pupils and is named in honor of the mother of Michael Otaigbe, former vice chair of the Prince William County School Board; the room symbolizes Mrs. Otaigbe's love of reading and storytelling; and

WHEREAS, the student body strives to follow the example set by its namesake, civil rights leader Rosa Parks, by exhibiting dignity, strength, courage, and pride in their daily activities; the members of the school community are proud of the school's inclusive and welcoming environment, where pupils with special needs are mainstreamed into all school settings; and

WHEREAS, pupils at Rosa Parks have many activities from which to choose; the school has a robotics team, a Strings and Chorus music program, a hands-on science lab, and a Spanish-language program for students in kindergarten through fifth grade; and

WHEREAS, helping the community is important to members of the Rosa Parks Elementary School community; the school sponsors a Turkey Trot race in November, and in recent years, participants have donated more than 700 items of food to a local charity; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Rosa Parks Elementary School on the occasion of its 10th anniversary in 2016; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Susan Danielson, principal of Rosa Parks Elementary School, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for the outstanding education that the school provides to students in Prince William County.

INTRODUCED

SJ178