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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 258

Offered January 11, 2017

Prefiled January 4, 2017

Commending Northstar Academy.

Patrons—Dunnavant, Ruff and Wagner; Delegate: Massie

WHEREAS, Northstar Academy, a nonprofit private school in Richmond, has promoted educational excellence and career opportunities for students with disabilities and academic, physical, or social challenges for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1996, Northstar Academy embraces a strong spirit of community to help students develop active, creative minds and encourage compassion and respect for individual differences and for one another; and

WHEREAS, Northstar Academy provides learners with a challenging educational environment, inspiring confident students who are willing to take intellectual risks, meet academic challenges with enthusiasm, and solve problems and make thoughtful decisions; and

WHEREAS, Northstar Academy cultivates an atmosphere that addresses the unique needs of its students in a changing society and enables students to become active citizens and responsible stewards of the world; and

WHEREAS, Northstar Academy offers an educational experience that is both traditional and unconventional, recognizing the unique needs of each student by using innovative methods to unlock students' talents and recognize students' desires to participate in activities that will enrich their personal learning process; and

WHEREAS, Northstar Academy provides state-of-the-art technology in its classrooms in order to give students every opportunity to access the curriculum and express themselves; and

WHEREAS, Northstar Academy provides vocational and educational support as upper school students plan for their future and supports students in their life pursuits by giving them a place to call their educational home; and

WHEREAS, the passionate and experienced faculty and staff of Northstar Academy are experts in meeting the needs of a range of disabilities, and the academy welcomes children whom other schools may have struggled to serve; and

WHEREAS, Northstar Academy provides students with an inclusive environment where they can build a fulfilling social life and where academics are customized to fit their specific needs and abilities; and

WHEREAS, Northstar Academy focuses on preparing students for life after graduation by centering on both educational and personal development; the academy has inspired countless students to achieve more than anyone thought possible; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Northstar Academy on the occasion of its 20th school year for delivering a unique and highly successful educational and vocational program that discovers and develops the abilities of young Virginians; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Patricia A. West, head of school of Northstar Academy, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the school's many contributions to the Richmond community and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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