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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 377

Offered February 7, 2017

Commending Occoquan Elementary School.

Patrons—Surovell, Barker and McPike; Delegates: Anderson, Dudenhefer and Torian

WHEREAS, Occoquan Elementary School is celebrating the 90th anniversary of its founding in 2017; and

WHEREAS, Occoquan first established a town school between 1867 and 1899, and the original two-room schoolhouse still stands on Commerce Street downtown; and

WHEREAS, the cornerstone for the current school building was laid on May 18, 1927, making Occoquan Elementary School the oldest public school still in use in Prince William County; and

WHEREAS, Occoquan became an elementary school in the 1960s, and the original school building on Commerce Street has been expanded four times over the course of its history; and

WHEREAS, today, Occoquan Elementary School has an enrollment of 610 students and employs 70 staff members; it is designated as a Title I School based on the percentage of children from economically disadvantaged families; and

WHEREAS, Occoquan Elementary School was recognized as a National Title I Distinguished School for the 2016-2017 school year, and it is the first school in Prince William County to earn this respected distinction; and

WHEREAS, Occoquan Elementary School was selected for the National Title I Distinguished School honor based on its superior service to special student populations, such as English language learners and students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Occoquan Elementary School is highly regarded for its exceptional instructional programming, the opportunities it provides for student success, and the partnerships it has forged with the families in the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, Occoquan Elementary School's Standards of Learning (SOL) pass rates ranged from 82 percent to 96 percent for the 2015-2016 school year, and the school is fully accredited under the Commonwealth's education accountability program; and

WHEREAS, Occoquan Elementary School uses team approaches to teaching and learning, offers focused professional development opportunities for staff, and develops individualized programs for student success; and

WHEREAS, Occoquan Elementary School has been named a Prince William County School of Excellence for 11 years; for the past two years, it has received Teacher Incentive Performance Awards; and

WHEREAS, Occoquan Elementary School has been served by 13 principals over the past nine decades, and the school's sustained record of excellence is a credit to the teamwork and dedication displayed by an outstanding staff; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Occoquan Elementary School on the occasion of the 90th anniversary of its founding; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Hamish Brewer, principal of Occoquan Elementary School, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the school's important history and best wishes for its bright future.

INTRODUCED

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