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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 654

Offered February 9, 2023

Commending the Fredericksburg City Public Schools Transportation Department.

Patrons—Durant and Scott, P.A.; Senator: Stuart

WHEREAS, the Fredericksburg City Public Schools Transportation Department has gone above and beyond to ensure that students receive safe and efficient transport to and from school; and

WHEREAS, the Fredericksburg City Public Schools (FCPS) Transportation Department works diligently to ensure that its bus drivers have the tools and support to provide exceptional service to students; and

WHEREAS, for the 2022-2023 school year, the FCPS Transportation Department reviewed and modified all bus routes to increase daily efficiency; and

WHEREAS, the FCPS Transportation Department recently acquired and enhanced new facilities equipped with office spaces, a training room, bathrooms, and a kitchen to better serve its employees; and

WHEREAS, the FCPS Transportation Department has created and expanded professional development opportunities for all of its employees, and full-time employees were offered benefits through the Virginia Retirement System; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the FCPS Transportation Department developed innovative cleaning procedures and offered weekly incentives to the drivers with the cleanest buses; and

WHEREAS, the FCPS Transportation Department modified routes to accommodate social distancing and hybrid learning schedules during the pandemic and has worked diligently to maintain full staffing levels during a period when school districts around the country are struggling to do so; and

WHEREAS, during the pandemic, members of the FCPS Transportation Department also generously volunteered to deliver meals to students and their families; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to reduce its carbon footprint, the FCPS Transportation Department acquired 10 electric buses and 10 electric charging stations through grant funding; the department is also studying new software to further enhance efficiency and ensure that buses are used to their full capacity; and

WHEREAS, to enhance its ability to serve the school district and the community, the FCPS Transportation Department became a third-party tester through the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, which allows the department to conduct tests for Commercial Driver's Licenses; and

WHEREAS, the FCPS Transportation Department has fulfilled its mission through the hard work and dedication of its staff members and drivers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Fredericksburg City Public Schools Transportation Department for its outstanding service to students; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Fredericksburg City Public Schools Transportation Department as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the department's critical contributions to public education.

INTRODUCED

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