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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 832

Offered February 20, 2023

Commending Ravensworth Elementary School.

Patron—Watts

WHEREAS, for 60 years, Ravensworth Elementary School, an outstanding public primary school in Springfield, has given students the tools and support they need to become lifelong learners and achieve their fullest potential in and out of the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Ravensworth Elementary School was organized under its first principal, Alice Tolliver, during the 1962-1963 academic year, at which time students from the Ravensworth Farms community were bussed to the former Lincolnia Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Ravensworth Elementary School officially opened at its permanent location on September 3, 1963; the school was designed by the architecture firm of Victor B. Spector & Associates and was constructed by general contractor M. L. Whitlow, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Ravensworth Elementary School originally had only 16 classrooms, a multipurpose room that functioned as the cafeteria, and a library on the second floor above the main office; and

WHEREAS, due to rapid growth in Fairfax County at the time, Ravensworth Elementary School quickly added four additional classrooms, two on each floor, on the northeast end of the building, and a single-story addition of six classrooms was constructed in 1966, increasing student capacity to 780; and

WHEREAS, Ravensworth Elementary School began offering a kindergarten program in 1968, and in 1977, the school's service area expanded to include the newly established and planned neighborhoods of Fox Lair and Signal Hill in Burke; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Ravensworth Elementary School completed construction of a gymnasium and music rooms and later began a building renewal project that added a media room and air conditioning; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1990s, Ravensworth Elementary School tested a unique Spanish Partial-Immersion Foreign Language program; the program proved so popular that, by 2003, it was one of 14 public schools offering Spanish immersion learning in Fairfax County; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 1990s, Ravensworth Elementary School also adapted to numerous changes in technology and opened its first computer lab; and

WHEREAS, due to overcrowding, Ravensworth Elementary School began in 2013 to utilize a set of modular classrooms that became known as "Ravens Town" to better serve students; three years later, the school completed a major renovation project to add 12,000 square feet of space, including classrooms and a new library; and

WHEREAS, Ravensworth Elementary School has fulfilled its mission to serve young people in Springfield through the hard work and dedication of its teachers, administrators, and staff and the support of parents, families, and community partners; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Ravensworth Elementary School on the occasion of its 60th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Ravensworth Elementary School as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the school's legacy of contributions to young people in Springfield.

INTRODUCED

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