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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 840

Offered February 20, 2023

Commending Cardinal Forest Elementary School.

Patrons—Tran; Senator: Saslaw

WHEREAS, Cardinal Forest Elementary School was named a Purple Star School for the 2022-2023 school year for its commitment to excellence in supporting military-connected children and their families; and

WHEREAS, located in West Springfield, Cardinal Forest Elementary School strives to promote excellence in academics, citizenship, and life and develop respectful, responsible leaders of the future; and

WHEREAS, Cardinal Forest Elementary School gives students the tools to achieve their fullest potential in and out of the classroom and build strong relationships with families and the community to create a safe, supportive environment; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Star School designation is presented by the Department of Education and the Council on the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children; for the current academic year, Cardinal Forest Elementary School was one of 189 schools in the Commonwealth, and one of 40 schools in Fairfax County, to receive the designation; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education and the Council on the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children have been participating in the Purple Star School program since 2018; Purple Star Schools retain the designation for three years before being required to reapply; and

WHEREAS, to qualify for the Purple Star School designation, Cardinal Forest Elementary School has cultivated a military-friendly atmosphere and provides peer transition teams for incoming and outgoing students, as well as helpful resources and programming on issues important to military families; and

WHEREAS, as part of its qualification, Cardinal Forest Elementary School maintains a trained staff point of contact as a primary link between military families and the school; the point of contact also conducts professional development sessions regarding special considerations for military students and their families; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the sometimes transient nature of military postings, Cardinal Forest Elementary School maintains informational resources on the arrival of new students, records requests and transfer assistance for outgoing students, and long-term academic planning; and

WHEREAS, Cardinal Forest Elementary School has a student-led transition program, which includes a student transition team coordinator, to provide peer support for both newly enrolled and withdrawing students; and

WHEREAS, Cardinal Forest Elementary School also provides information on specialized subjects like special education, parental rights, parent-teacher associations, extracurricular activities, local community supports, and the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Cardinal Forest Elementary School on its selection as a Purple Star School for the 2022-2023 academic year; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Cardinal Forest Elementary School as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the school's outstanding contributions to young people and support for military families in the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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