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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 841

Offered February 20, 2023

*Commending Washington Mill Elementary School.*

Patrons—Tran, Krizek and Sickles; Senators: Ebbin and Surovell

WHEREAS, Washington Mill Elementary School was named a Purple Star School for the 2022-2023 academic year for its commitment to excellence in supporting military-connected children and their families, and this was its second time receiving this designation; and

WHEREAS, located in Mount Vernon on land once owned by George Washington, Washington Mill Elementary School strives to ignite a passion for lifelong learning by encouraging students to take risks in a safe, nurturing environment and develop the tools to become critical thinkers prepared for the future; and

WHEREAS, Washington Mill Elementary School celebrates its diverse school community and builds strong relationships with families and local community partners to create new opportunities for students; 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, Washington Mill 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, Washington Mill 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, Washington Mill 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, Washington Mill 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, Washington Mill 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, Washington Mill 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 Washington Mill 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 Washington Mill 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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