

2009 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 672

Offered January 14, 2009

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Commending Willoughby Elementary School.

Patron—Miller, P.J.

WHEREAS, Willoughby Elementary School, a Norfolk public school, was the only public elementary school in the Commonwealth to achieve 100 percent pass rates in five accreditation benchmarks of the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL); and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Education reported that Willoughby Elementary School's 2007 SOL test scores surpassed the test results of the other 1,836 schools in the state where standardized tests were taken; and

WHEREAS, the school's SOL pass rates have been climbing each year since 2002, when fewer than 65 percent of Willoughby Elementary School's students passed the state's standardized tests in English and math and fewer than half scored well on the history exams; and

WHEREAS, through impressive improvement in scores and the implementation of innovative teaching methods, Willoughby Elementary School, led by Principal Sharon Phillips, has made excellent progress toward an enhanced, comprehensive plan for strengthened public education for its students; and

WHEREAS, one of Norfolk's smallest elementary schools, Willoughby Elementary School benefits from the strong support of the Norfolk Public Schools and the members of the Norfolk School Board; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Education's recognition of Willoughby Elementary School's perfect Virginia SOL scores is a tribute to the hard work and dedication of the students, teachers, parents, staff and the Willoughby and Ocean View communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Willoughby Elementary School as the only school in the Commonwealth to achieve 100 percent pass rates in five accreditation benchmarks of the Virginia SOL; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Sharon Phillips, the principal of Willoughby Elementary School, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for the school's commitment to the young people of Norfolk and the Commonwealth.

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