

2011 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 748

Offered January 25, 2011

Commending Mark Twain Middle School on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Patron—Sickles

WHEREAS, Mark Twain Middle School of the Fairfax County Public Schools will celebrate its 50th anniversary of providing quality education to the students of Alexandria in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Mark Twain Middle School aims for excellence for every child, every day and to prepare each student for the future by offering the highest caliber of learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, home of the Tigers, Mark Twain Middle School embraces students as individuals with the ability to change the world; and

WHEREAS, cognizant of the importance of empowering its students with the knowledge and skills needed to make responsible choices and independent decisions, Mark Twain Middle School provides differentiated instruction and maintains high expectations for all; and

WHEREAS, Mark Twain Middle School, believing that every student can make an impact, assigns each of its 837 enrolled 7th and 8th graders to one of six teams to optimize individual instruction opportunities and create learning communities within the school; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to ensuring that students master core subjects and enjoy an enriched curriculum, Mark Twain Middle School operates on a block schedule that allows students to attend seven classes each semester while enjoying the time needed to absorb new knowledge and build their skills; and

WHEREAS, Mark Twain Middle School, recognizing the importance of sustained reading time for cognitive development and elevated test scores, schedules a 45-minute period of Extended Learning Time into each block period day; and

WHEREAS, in addition to quality instruction during the school day, the Mark Twain Middle School afterschool program offers 25 clubs and activities including language clubs, competitive mathematics and science teams, intramural sports, service opportunities, dramatic and artistic clubs, and academic assistance; and

WHEREAS, placing an emphasis on fostering positive relationships with parents and the community, Mark Twain Middle School maintains an award-winning website with weekly messages from Principal Aimee Holleb, Internet access to homework assignments for students, and updates on Mark Twain Middle School goals and successes; and

WHEREAS, Mark Twain Middle School encourages all students to develop to their full academic, social, and psychological potential and strives to provide every child with a nurturing, supportive, and challenging learning environment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Mark Twain Middle School on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Aimee Holleb, principal of Mark Twain Middle School, as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude to the middle school for its commitment to the young people of Alexandria and best wishes for a joyful 50th anniversary celebration.

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