

2015 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 890

Commending Drew Model Elementary School.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 24, 2015
Agreed to by the Senate, February 26, 2015

WHEREAS, in 2015, Drew Model Elementary School in Arlington County celebrates 70 years of helping students build a strong foundation for lifelong learning; and

WHEREAS, Drew Model Elementary School, which is on South 23rd Street in Arlington's Nauck/Green Valley neighborhood, honors the heritage of the Lomax Church school that opened in 1875 for African American pupils; and

WHEREAS, the school was called Kemper Annex when it opened in 1945 to educate African American students; it was renamed in 1951 for Dr. Charles Drew, a pioneer in the field of blood plasma research, who was the first African American to earn a doctor of science in medicine degree; and

WHEREAS, in 1951, Drew Model Elementary School also completed an addition to better serve the growing student body; with the end of segregated schools in 1971, it became a model county-wide magnet school; and

WHEREAS, the current school building opened in the early 2000s, and the earlier facility was demolished; today, Drew Model Elementary School offers two instructional programs, traditional graded classes for preschool through fifth-grade students, and a multi-age Montessori program for ages 3 - 11; and

WHEREAS, as a neighborhood county-wide elementary school, Drew Model Elementary School is proud of its experienced and dedicated faculty and staff; the school also boasts an active parent-teacher association, and classroom volunteers assist throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, Drew Model Elementary School stresses academics, appreciation, accountability, and the arts; its "four As" approach is integrated into both of its instructional programs; the school is proud of its Changing Education Through the Arts partnership with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Drew Model Elementary School in Arlington County on the occasion of its 70th anniversary in 2015; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Darryl Evans, principal of Drew Model Elementary School, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for its proud history and for its unwavering mission to educate the children of Arlington County.

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