HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 878

Commending Shari Milne Vandygriff.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 10, 2017 Agreed to by the Senate, February 16, 2017

WHEREAS, Shari Milne Vandygriff, an eighth-grade English teacher at Berkeley Middle School in Williamsburg, was named the Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools Teacher of the Year in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Shari Vandygriff was first selected as Middle School Teacher of the Year in the Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools (WJCC) division, making her one of three finalists for the Teacher of the Year award; and

WHEREAS, Shari Vandygriff has been a teacher in WJCC Public Schools since 2009, and is currently the English curriculum leader at Berkeley Middle School, where she also serves as a mentor and Parent Teacher Association teacher representative; and

WHEREAS, Shari Vandygriff has also led the Write Talk program at Berkeley Middle School, where community members teach students about the importance of writing; and

WHEREAS, Shari Vandygriff views teaching as a calling, not just a career; the learning environment she creates in her classroom is student-centered and designed to promote active student engagement; and

WHEREAS, Shari Vandygriff sets high expectations and makes every student feel as if they belong; her teaching philosophy emphasizes building trusting relationships, providing a nurturing learning environment, and encouraging collaboration; and

WHEREAS, Shari Vandygriff's students describe her as humorous, prepared, positive, and approachable; she really connects with her students and inspires them to reach high levels in her classroom; and

WHEREAS, Shari Vandygriff's success in the classroom is made possible with the love and support of her family members, mentors, and colleagues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Shari Milne Vandygriff on being named the Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools Teacher of the Year in 2016; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Shari Milne Vandygriff as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her achievement and deep commitment to excellence in her classroom.