

## 2018 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 524

*Commending An Achievable Dream Middle and High School.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 7, 2018

Agreed to by the Senate, March 9, 2018

WHEREAS, for over a decade, An Achievable Dream Middle and High School in Newport News has helped nurture and educate numerous young people through its specialized curriculum and enhanced learning programs; and

WHEREAS, opened in 2007, An Achievable Dream Middle and High School is one of four schools in the Commonwealth overseen by An Achievable Dream, a nonprofit organization devoted to expanding educational opportunities for socioeconomically disadvantaged students; and

WHEREAS, through a unique partnership between Newport News Public Schools, the City of Newport News, and the local business community, An Achievable Dream Middle and High School offers a specialized curriculum that challenges students to raise their expectations of themselves and build self-esteem; and

WHEREAS, An Achievable Dream Middle and High School has an extended school day to allow its 6th- through 12th-grade students greater opportunity to excel academically; the school also hosts a four-week intersession in the summer for learners to receive additional tutoring or participate in enrichment programs; and

WHEREAS, An Achievable Dream Middle and High School places a strong emphasis on character education and works to develop its students into successful adults through guest lectures, cultural experiences, and a focus on character development themes such as integrity, honesty, and self-discipline; and

WHEREAS, through its partnerships with private businesses, An Achievable Dream Middle and High School operates the "What It Takes" Program, which allows students to receive training in work ethic, attitude, teamwork, problem solving, public speaking, and other skills designed to help them succeed as members of the workforce; and

WHEREAS, all 6th- through 8th-grade students at An Achievable Dream Middle and High School are required to take tennis instruction to help them learn discipline and fairness; in addition, every student must take part in a club and participate in a community service project; and

WHEREAS, An Achievable Dream Middle and High School is fully accredited and has a 100 percent on-time graduation rate; the school's 2017 graduating seniors completed 595 honors courses and were awarded roughly \$2 million in scholarship funds; and

WHEREAS, the diligent faculty, staff, and administration of An Achievable Dream Middle and High School work constantly to improve the student learning experience and empower all who walk through the school's doors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend An Achievable Dream Middle and High School for its tradition of academic excellence on the occasion of its 10th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Marilyn Sinclair-White, principal of An Achievable Dream Middle and High School, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the school's ongoing commitment to its students and the community.

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