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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 209

Offered February 28, 2020

*Commending Williamsburg Parent Cooperative Preschool.*

Patrons—Mason and Norment

WHEREAS, Williamsburg Parent Cooperative Preschool, the only parent cooperative preschool in the Tidewater area, celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2019; and

WHEREAS, affectionately referred to as "Co-op," Williamsburg Parent Cooperative Preschool was founded by a group of parents in 1969; over the past half-century, the school has served thousands of families and today is one of the largest cooperative preschools in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, housed in St. Martin's Episcopal Church for the past 40 years, Williamsburg Parent Cooperative Preschool is run by a parent board and is unique for the level of parental involvement in the day-to-day operations of the school; and

WHEREAS, parents of the children enrolled at Williamsburg Parent Cooperative Preschool generously volunteer in the classroom as aides multiple times a year, facilitating the work of the school's licensed professional teachers and fostering a collective sense of togetherness; and

WHEREAS, the Williamsburg Parent Cooperative Preschool model allows parents to interact with the school's children, teachers, and other parents in meaningful ways that are not always possible in the traditional preschool model; and

WHEREAS, with this experience of close community support and involvement, many parents who participate in Williamsburg Parent Cooperative Preschool later become leaders at their children's grade schools or in parent teacher associations; and

WHEREAS, by creating an interactive and lively learning environment, Williamsburg Parent Cooperative Preschool cultivates a love for learning in its students that will stay with them for the rest of their lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Williamsburg Parent Cooperative Preschool on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Molly Gareis, director of Williamsburg Parent Cooperative Preschool, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the school's history and its contributions to Williamsburg and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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