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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 323

Offered February 2, 2021

Commending the Prince William County Public Schools' Food and Nutrition Services staff.

Patrons—Roem, Adams, D.M., Ayala, Convirs-Fowler, Hayes, Heretick, Hope, Levine, McQuinn, Murphy, Rasoul, Reid, Scott, Simonds, Subramanyam and Ware

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Public Schools' Food and Nutrition Services staff, consisting of 800 hardworking nutrition team members, has been dedicated to providing nutritious meals for thousands of students, no matter what challenges may arise; and

WHEREAS, more than 11.5 million meals have been served by the Food and Nutrition Services staff of Prince William County Public Schools (PWCS) since the start of the 2020-2021 school year and more than 12.5 million meals have been served since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020; and

WHEREAS, the PWCS Food and Nutrition Services staff has provided meals to students across 37 schools, implementing organized school meal distributions in all weather conditions so that students and families may enjoy a hot meal at home; and

WHEREAS, the staff and leadership team within PWCS Food and Nutrition Services has been dedicated to service and outreach, promoting the distribution of school meal and grocery kits to students through various forms of social media and other platforms so that children and parents may feel both welcomed and invited to receive a school meal; and

WHEREAS, the PWCS Food and Nutrition Services staff has been truly committed to the well-being of students in the face of the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and has consistently provided meals and emotional support to students who would otherwise be in distress due to food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the PWCS Food and Nutrition Services staff has acted heroically, dedicating hours to planning, organizing, and executing food distributions that used 70 tons of fresh produce, 65,000 gallons of milk, and 125 tons of additional ingredients in order to ensure that no student goes without a nutritious lunch; and

WHEREAS, the PWCS Food and Nutrition Services staff has expanded school meals provided to students into curbside pick-up family grocery kits, which include whole grains, proteins, vegetables, fruit, and milk, to serve as a weekly grocery supplement for children and families that may be struggling with food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the PWCS Food and Nutrition Services team has upheld the PWCS nutrition standards by committing to provide wholesome, high-quality, and nutritious meals and food items in an efficient, friendly manner and at prices customers can afford; and

WHEREAS, by putting the needs of students first, the PWCS Food and Nutrition Services staff has nurtured young lives, one nutritious meal at a time, both before and throughout the COVID-19 pandemic; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Prince William County Public Schools' Food and Nutrition Services staff hereby be commended for its meritorious service to the children and families of Prince William County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to Adam Russo, director of Prince William County Public Schools' Food and Nutrition Services, and the employees of Prince William County Public Schools' Food and Nutrition Services as an expression of the House of Delegates' celebration of their commitment to feeding students and fighting food insecurity.

INTRODUCED

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