

2022 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 682

Commending South County Middle School.

Agreed to by the Senate, September 7, 2022

WHEREAS, in 2022, South County Middle School celebrates its 10th anniversary of providing an outstanding education to young people in Lorton; and

WHEREAS, South County Middle School was previously part of South County Secondary School, which served students in grades seven through 11 from Lorton, Fairfax Station, and part of Springfield between 2005 and 2012; and

WHEREAS, South County Secondary School quickly outgrew its capacity, and Fairfax County developed plans to build a new middle school on nearby land that had formerly served as a cornfield for Occoquan Workhouse minimum security prison and the site of a Cold War anti-aircraft missile battery; and

WHEREAS, South County Middle School opened on September 4, 2012, with Marsha Manning as its first principal; the school was founded with a mission to produce "Capable, Connected, and Contributing" citizens who were well-prepared to meet the challenges of a global society; and

WHEREAS, South County Middle School chose the Mustang as its school mascot and regatta blue, apple green, and maroon as its school colors; and

WHEREAS, South County Middle School opened with 1,053 students in seventh and eighth grades supported by 101 faculty, administrators, and staff; the initial enrollment was composed of students from Halley Elementary School, Laurel Hill Elementary School, Newington Forest Elementary School, Silverbrook Elementary School, Gunston Elementary School, and Lorton Station Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, South County Middle School has maintained an academically rigorous curriculum and a positive, supportive learning environment; the school offers an array of specialized services for students, including the Advanced Academics Level IV Center Program, an honors program, a special education program, and numerous electives in the arts, career and technical education, and world languages; and

WHEREAS, South County Middle School has adapted to changes in teaching methods and technology to support modern learning; each student receives a laptop with access to dynamic resources and tools tailored to each student's unique learning needs; and

WHEREAS, South County Middle School's Parent-Teacher-Student Organization and the entire school community continue to work in partnership to facilitate student success and high achievement in and out of the classroom; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of current principal Peter Kownacki, the South County Middle School Mustangs are committed to demonstrating the character traits of Honesty, Ownership, Respect, Service, and Effort (HORSE); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That South County Middle School hereby be commended on the occasion of its 10th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to South County Middle School as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for its achievements in service to young people in Lorton.

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