

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Paul Paquette upon the occasion of his retirement after 21 years of distinguished service as an educator

WHEREAS, New York State's commitment to education is unparalleled; its history and stature are secured by the superlative caliber of its educational professionals and the students they inspire; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of those outstanding educational leaders, whose dedication and achievements have been instrumental in developing character and academic excellence in the young people of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Paul Paquette upon the occasion of his retirement after 21 years of dedicated service in education; and

WHEREAS, Paul Paquette, an English Language Learner (ELL) teacher at the Covert Avenue School and Clara H. Carlson School, has changed the outcome of students' lives and the Elmont community in which they live; and

WHEREAS, Paul Paquette's experiences as an ELL teacher and a Resource Person in Thailand helped to prepare him for teaching students who come from diverse cultural backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, Paul Paquette is an extremely generous, industrious educator who works tirelessly in helping students in all areas of their lives; his classroom is always filled with hardworking, motivated students, who are having fun while learning from his meaningful hands-on activities; and

WHEREAS, He always places children's learning first, often giving up his lunch and/or preps to help in meeting their needs; Paul is the kind of teacher who always has both a quick and ready smile and laugh and is always willing with an open heart to give his all in helping his students in any way possible; and

WHEREAS, This outstanding educator is an excellent role model for his students; after the devastating tsunami in Thailand, Paul Paquette worked with the Student Council in organizing a fundraiser to benefit the children of Phuket and their families; the funds that were collected were used to rebuild a school and purchase school equipment and supplies for the students; and

WHEREAS, Paul Paquette has served as a member of the Building Advisory Committee and coordinates the annual Cultural Diversity Celebration during which time ELL students perform; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, he initiated the ELL Computer and Homework Clubs; these clubs were extremely helpful to the students who, much of the time, did not have someone at home fluent enough to assist them with their homework; and

WHEREAS, Educators like Paul Paquette provide a tremendous service to the future of our State and Nation, inspiring generations of young people in their educational journeys and ensuring their success in their future years; and

WHEREAS, Paul Paquette has clearly had an enduring impact on the youth of the Elmont School District, as well as on the community-at-large, and accordingly merits recognition and applause for his impressive dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those individuals who work to support our proud tradition of public education by providing their skills and talents to our schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

honor Paul Paquette upon the occasion of his retirement after 21 years of dedicated service in education, and for his significant contributions to education in New York State; and to wish him continued success in all of his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Paul Paquette.