

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the dedication of the Nicholas A. Rossi Auditorium at William E. Severn Elementary School on June 15, 2013, and honoring the memory of this beloved educator

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas A. Rossi, principal and teacher in the Corning-Painted Post School District for nearly forty years, died on August 25, 2011; he was venerated by his students, their families, and his peers, and his commitment to excellence, as well as his passion for improving the quality of people's lives, extended beyond the school buildings and into the broader community; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the dedication of the Nicholas A. Rossi Auditorium on Saturday, June 15, 2013, at William E. Severn Elementary School in Corning, New York, and to honor the memory of this beloved educator; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas A. Rossi of Painted Post, New York, began his career in education as a developmental reading teacher at Painted Post School in 1959, then worked as a fourth and fifth grade teacher at Frank Pierce Elementary School from 1961-1966; after serving as a guidance counselor for two years, he transitioned into administration, working in various leadership capacities until 1982 when he began his illustrious tenure as Principal of William E. Severn Elementary School before retiring in 1998; and

WHEREAS, As Principal at Severn School, Nicholas A. Rossi knew all of his students, and most of their families, by name; he created an enthusiastic and inviting environment for students, teachers, staff and parents and possessed the unique ability to make everyone he came into contact with feel as if they were the most important person in the world; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas A. Rossi was an exceptional educator and leader who visited every classroom daily, and had high expectations of both staff and students; he was committed to creating a comprehensive and multidimensional learning environment, establishing a student council program where children learned leadership principles, fostered fun activities as an expansion of a child's learning experience, and established a Grandparent Program, recognizing the value of grandparents in student well-being; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas A. Rossi was a strong advocate for and supporter of the Corning-Painted Post School District throughout his distinguished career; he continued to serve after his retirement, stepping into various interim and supervisory roles until 2010; and

WHEREAS, The dedication of the auditorium in the school building where Nicholas A. Rossi led with such talent, zeal, and joy is a fitting tribute to a life well-lived and a life worth remembering, a lasting memorial to an individual who gave honor and dignity to the field of education; and

WHEREAS, The Nicholas A. Rossi Auditorium will long endure as an inspiration and legacy to all who had the privilege and honor of knowing him, and to future generations of students, staff and faculty at William E. Severn Elementary School; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the dedication of the Nicholas A. Rossi Auditorium at William E. Severn Elementary School in Corning, New York, on June 15, 2013, and to honor the memory of this beloved educator; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to the family of Nicholas A. Rossi.