

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Cherry Lane Elementary School upon the occasion of its designation as a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend institutions of true purpose and high achievement whose exemplary programs and accomplishments clearly demonstrate the pursuit of excellence in education and service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Cherry Lane Elementary School in Airmont, New York, upon the occasion of its designation as a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of this auspicious honor, the Airmont Town Council has declared Saturday, September 20, 2014 as "Cherry Lane Blue Ribbon Day"; to be celebrated with a parade, flag raising and dedication ceremony; and

WHEREAS, The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and nonpublic elementary, middle, and high schools where students achieve at very high levels; the Program sets a standard of excellence for all schools striving for the highest level of success; and

WHEREAS, The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program is part of a larger United States Department of Education effort to identify and disseminate knowledge about best school leadership and teaching practices; each year since 1982, the Department of Education has sought out schools where students attain high academic goals and where the achievement gap is narrowing; and

WHEREAS, Cherry Lane Elementary School was nominated by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) as an "Exemplary High Performing School" for ranking among the highest performing schools on state assessments, having been recognized in 2012 as a NYSED Reward School for sustained, significant progress on assessments; and

WHEREAS, One of only 286 schools across the country to achieve this distinction, and the first in Rockland County, Cherry Lane Elementary is a close-knit community of strong outstanding administrators, dedicated professional staff, highly motivated students and highly engaged parents; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed academic institution believes how to learn is as important as what is learned, and that students succeed when effort and perseverance toward excellence is encouraged and celebrated; and

WHEREAS, Under the able leadership of former Principal Dr. David Leach, Cherry Lane Elementary School fulfilled its laudatory educational focus on preparing students to think critically and creatively, helping them to become confident learners and responsible citizens, a tradition that is proudly continued by current Principal Eric Baird; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when an educational institution of such noble aims and accomplishments is brought to our attention, it should be recognized and applauded by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Cherry Lane Elementary School, upon the occasion of its designation as a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Eric Baird, Principal, Cherry Lane Elementary School.