

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Brown School upon the occasion of its 120th Anniversary

WHEREAS, The State of New York takes great pride in acknowledging significant milestones in the distinguished histories of its esteemed entities; and

WHEREAS, Brown School, under the luminous direction of Patti Vitale, Head of School, will celebrate its 120th Anniversary during a gala to be held at the River Stone Manor on April 13, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Brown School opened in 1893, with a class of 12 kindergarten students; and

WHEREAS, The school originally operated from the Liberty Street home of its founder, Helen "Nellie" Brown; and

WHEREAS, Brown School offered an alternative to public education, focusing on small class sizes and an individualized approach to learning, and was originally intended to serve the children of General Electric employees; and

WHEREAS, The school grew quickly, and, in 1904, a small building was erected on donated land in the G.E. Realty Plot; eventually, the house next door was also purchased for additional classes and expanded faculty; and

WHEREAS, At the school on Rugby Road, students enjoyed extraordinary academic instruction as well as extracurricular activities such as drama, glee club, bicycling, horseback riding, skiing, ice-skating, and an active newspaper/literary journal titled THE BABBLER; and

WHEREAS, From the 1940s through the 1960s, Brown School offered programs through sixth grade; it became a primary school in the mid 1970s; and

WHEREAS, At the urging of parents in the early 1980s, the school expanded again to include third grade and increased one grade per year until fifth grade was also included; and

WHEREAS, Additional space was now needed, and Brown School moved to the former Van Antwerp Middle School for eight years; and

WHEREAS, The school returned to its Rugby Road home from 1991 until 1996; and

WHEREAS, Brown School students began the 1996-1997 school year in their new home on Corlaer Avenue, where the school is still located today; and

WHEREAS, The school began a middle school expansion and graduated its first eighth graders in 1999; and

WHEREAS, Brown School has a long and distinguished history in the community for providing quality education and enriching extracurricular activities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Brown School upon the occasion of its 120th Anniversary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Patti Vitale, Head of School at Brown School.