

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending P.S. 203, the Oakland Gardens School, upon the occasion of its designation as a 2012 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 P.S. 203, the Oakland Gardens School, upon the occasion of its designation as a 2012 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence; and

WHEREAS, The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and nonpublic elementary, middle, and high schools where students achieve at very high levels and/or where the achievement gap is narrowing; the Program sets a standard of excellence for all schools striving for the highest level of achievement; 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 and maintain high academic goals, including those that beat the odds; and

WHEREAS, P.S. 203, the Oakland Gardens School, in Bayside, Queens, New York, was named a 2012 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence; it is ranked sixth in New York City and eighth in New York State on ELA and Math tests; it has earned four straight A's on its New York City progress reports, and an "Outstanding" on its last quality review; and

WHEREAS, P.S. 203, the Oakland Gardens School, is a close knit school community of strong outstanding administrators, dedicated professional staff, highly motivated students and highly engaged parents; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the Oakland Gardens School is to ensure that its students will achieve the highest academic standards aligned with the Common Core Learning Standards as outlined in the Chancellor's City-wide Expectations; and

WHEREAS, Under the leadership of its outstanding Principal, Carole Nussbaum, the Oakland Gardens School continues to fulfill its laudatory educational purposes and is proudly aware of its distinguished past; it is eager to fulfill its commitment to its students, faculty, alumni and community, and is planning with vision and purpose for the growth and change it will encounter in the years to come; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents a unique opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to P.S. 203, the Oakland Gardens School; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 P.S. 203, the Oakland Gardens School, upon the occasion of its designation as a 2012 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to P.S. 203, the Oakland Gardens School.