

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Michael Cosmai upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2016 Man of the Year Award by the Bensonhurst West End Community Council on May 4, 2016

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding individuals whose professional lives, personal endeavors and community service are an example and inspiration to their colleagues, friends, and family; and

WHEREAS, It is also the practice of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly acknowledge individuals of remarkable integrity and character whose endeavors have enhanced the quality of education in this great State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Michael Cosmai upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2016 Man of the Year Award by the Bensonhurst West End Community Council to be celebrated at its 55th Annual Gala, at El Caribe, Brooklyn, New York, on Wednesday, May 4, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, Michael Cosmai was inspired by his nurturing teachers in Districts 21 and 22 in Brooklyn to become an educator; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from Nazareth Regional High School, Michael Cosmai studied sound engineering at the Institute of Audio Research; he worked as a recording engineer at Sound Ideas Recording Studios in New York City throughout the mid-1980s and was fortunate enough to work with major recording artists both in the recording studio and on the road at live performances; and

WHEREAS, In 1990, Michael Cosmai earned his bachelor's degree in History, with a minor in German language from Brooklyn College; he then furthered his education by obtaining his master's degree four years later; and

WHEREAS, Michael Cosmai began his illustrious teaching career at Erasmus Hall High School; in 1991, he transferred to I. S. 303 in District 21, where he taught Social Studies, Computer Science and Digital Photography; at the encouragement of his principal, he returned to school to earn his School Administration Certification; and

WHEREAS, In 2001, Michael Cosmai was selected to be a member of the SMART Team, which was the district's team of technology staff developers; in this capacity, he had the opportunity to work at every school in the district and collaborate with a diverse array of educators; and

WHEREAS, From 2004-2014, Michael Cosmai held the title of Assistant Principal at P.S. 225; in this role, he honed his skills in curriculum and instruction, data analysis and personal leadership and built a community of trust and collaboration within one of most diverse student populations in New York City; and

WHEREAS, In 2014, Michael Cosmai accepted the esteemed position of Principal of P.S. 225; throughout his tenure, he has implemented new instructional initiatives, such as the Teachers College Units of Study in Writing, provided his teachers with the necessary support to meet the increasing challenges that teachers face each day, and increased the school's commitment to the arts through student musical performances and murals on display throughout the school; and

WHEREAS, When Michael Cosmai is not at work, he enjoys traveling with his family, and re-energizing himself by performing as a musician as well as building and repairing guitars; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his supportive wife, Tricia, and his two sons, Matthew and Christopher, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Principal Michael Cosmai and his dedicated staff continue to build a collaborative professional learning community, committed to providing a rigorous and supportive learning environment for all of the students that the school serves; and

WHEREAS, Michael Cosmai has brought great credit upon himself by continually demonstrating an impressive dedication, an unparalleled devotion and an unrelenting enthusiasm for the quality of the educational programs and opportunities offered at the schools where he has served; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his professional service, a period of constructive involvement, Michael Cosmai has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor, and has earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues, family and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Michael Cosmai upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2016 Man of the Year Award by the Bensonhurst West End Community Council; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Michael Cosmai.