

BY: Senator JACOBS

CONGRATULATING Orchard Park High School upon the occasion of being named a National Blue Ribbon School

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those institutions of true purpose and high achievement whose exemplary programs and accomplishment clearly demonstrate an enduring pursuit of excellence in the education of the youth of the Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Orchard Park High School upon the occasion of being named a National Blue Ribbon School; and

WHEREAS, Designation as a National Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education is indicative of high level school standards set in pursuant of excellence; and

WHEREAS, True to its mission to pursue excellence in education for every scholar, the Orchard Park High School provides all students with a quality education through a shared partnership among staff, parents and students; and

WHEREAS, By empowering every pupil to become lifelong learners and engaged citizens, Orchard Park High School and its faculty are creating leaders of tomorrow, and their example is a powerful inspiration to other educators; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous leadership of its Principal, Jonathan Wolf, Orchard Park High School embodies a palpable, warm, and supportive learning environment; its commitment to a focus on learning and tradition of excellence is continuous; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, these relationships foster its mission to establish a culture for learning, ensure high expectations are embedded in all work habits, and engage all teachers in inquiry-based professional collaborations that strengthen instructional capacity per grade level; and

WHEREAS, The students' families at Orchard Park High School share this strong belief in education that hard work and perseverance, coupled with a positive outlook and teacher support, is the best recipe for their child's success in school, both academically and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, As a National Blue Ribbon School, the Orchard Park High School has been judged to be particularly effective in meeting local, State and national educational goals; it has also displayed the qualities of excellence necessary to prepare young people for challenges of the 21st Century; and

WHEREAS, National Blue Ribbon School status is awarded to schools which have demonstrated strong leadership; a clear vision and sense of mission that is shared by all connected with the school; high quality teaching; a challenging, up-to-date curriculum; policies and practices which ensure a safe environment conducive to learning; a solid commitment to parental involvement and evidence that the school helps all students achieve high standards; and

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Education has designated 329 schools across the country to receive this honor in 2016, placing Orchard Park High School in an elite bracket of schools; across New York State, only 20 districts were designated as National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2016, making Orchard Park High School one of two in their local area; and

WHEREAS, Orchard Park High School has continually demonstrated an impressive dedication, an unparalleled devotion and an unremitting enthusiasm for the quality of educational programs and opportunities offered for the benefit of its faculty and students as well as the entire community; and

WHEREAS, The National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence award stands as a resolute testimony to Orchard Park's standards of excellence, its uncompromising values, unparalleled dedication, and the special teamwork of its family of students, parents, teachers and administrators, who share common goals and uncommon expectations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Orchard Park High School upon the occasion of being named a National Blue Ribbon School, noting the significance of its accomplishment and recognizing the role such effective schools play in shaping the quality of life in their community, State and Nation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Principal Jonathan Wolf of Orchard Park High School.