

BY: M. of A. Otis

CONGRATULATING the Rye High School Girls Varsity Soccer Team upon the occasion of capturing the New York State Class A Girls Championship

WHEREAS, The storied tradition of athletic success at Rye High School has continued with the Girls Varsity Soccer Team's victory in the New York State Class A Championship game, shutting out Shoreham-Wading River High School with a score of 2-0, at Cortland High School in Cortland, New York, on Sunday, November 12, 2023, and capturing the team's first state and sectional Class A Championship title since 2008; and

WHEREAS, This achievement follows the building of one of the most solid and consistent sectional programs in the state, finishing the regular season with a 14-2 record through effective ball handling, passing, and shooting, in addition to explosive speed and agility; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, this championship team was built upon the success of a strong program that advanced significantly but fell short of a state title; the 2023 Garnets turned this history into inspiration and a fighting spirit through the successive rounds of regional and state playoff tournament competition against worthy opponents; and

WHEREAS, Regional victories, beginning with an impressive 2-0 victory over Albertus Magnus, a team that had not lost or conceded a goal to a public school since 2019, were succeeded by a regional semi-final 4-0 win over Owego Free Academy and the regional triumph over Our Lady of Lourdes by a 4-1 margin; and

WHEREAS, Rye High School's tremendous defense continued to shine in the state's Final Four with their 3-0 state semi-final success over Lewiston Porter School and the exciting championship game victory over Shoreham-Wading River High School by a 2-0 score, culminating an amazing playoff run of 24 goals for, and only one goal against, the Girls Varsity Soccer Team in five post-season games; and

WHEREAS, The team, finishing the season with an outstanding 22-2 record, was loyally and enthusiastically supported by family, fans, friends, and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body congratulates the members of the Rye High School Girls Varsity Soccer Team: Tessa Labovitz, Karenn Chader, Phoebe Lee, Sage Ruttenberg, Lucy Wyckoff, Della Goodman, Joy DeSanto, Alli Koford, Isabel Harvey, Lyla Keenan, Bowyn Brown, Sophia Shoemaker, Mali White, Charlotte Keenan, Shira Rand, Ava Cross, Sienna Wardle, Claire Curran, Meredith Kenny, Reese Lejuez, Paige Vanneck, Clare Nemsick, Mary Sack, Samantha Yeh, Madelyn Walsh, Parker Calhoun; Head Coach Richard Savage; Assistant Coach Guilianna Addesso; Director of Athletics, Susan Reid Dullea; Principal Suzanne Kelly-Short; and Superintendent Dr. Eric Byrne on their outstanding season and overall

team record; and

WHEREAS, Athletic competition instills the values of teamwork, sportsmanship, pride, and accomplishment; Head Coach Richard Savage, Assistant Coach Guilianna Adesso, Director of Athletics, Susan Reid Dullea, and all of the outstanding athletes have clearly made a contribution to the spirit of excellence that is a tradition at Rye High School; and

WHEREAS, These competitors have made their mark through a combination of scoring power and stingy defensive play; let us celebrate this championship season; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pauses in its deliberations to congratulate and honor the Rye High School Girls Varsity Soccer Team upon the occasion of capturing the New York State Class A Girls Championship; winning a state championship is an enormous achievement, made possible this season through the team's exceptional skill, persistence, teamwork, and energy delivered in the spirit of the best collegiate, Olympic and professional soccer championship teams; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members, coaches, and administrators of the Rye High School Girls Varsity Soccer Team.