

**BY:** Senator JACOBS

**CONGRATULATING** the 2017 Valedictorian and Salutatorian of Orchard Park High School, in recognition of their exceptional accomplishments

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to honor the youth of today, the leaders of tomorrow, whose character and achievements exemplify the ideals and values cherished by this great State and Nation; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the 2017 Valedictorian and Salutatorian of Orchard Park High School, in recognition of their exceptional accomplishments; and

**WHEREAS,** Orchard Park High School's 2017 Valedictorian is Grant Merkel, and the 2017 Salutatorian is Cole Wilkinson, both of whom are being commended for their outstanding academic performances and exemplary achievements; and

**WHEREAS,** Grant Merkel and Cole Wilkinson may now stand with pride as they assess their achievements, experience the satisfaction of their labors and the joy of their accomplishments, eager to face the new experiences of challenging world; and

**WHEREAS,** These two bright and extraordinary students represent the best of developed potential inherent in our most precious resource, our youth; their achievements have brought enduring honor to their families and communities and should be recognized and saluted; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend those students of remarkable character, who have shown initiative and commitment toward constantly pursuing higher goals for themselves, and acting as role models of leadership to be emulated by their peers; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the 2017 Valedictorian and Salutatorian of Orchard Park High School, in recognition of their outstanding accomplishments, and to extend to them the best wishes of this Legislative Body for a future of purposeful success and well-being; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Grant Merkel and Cole Wilkinson.