

**BY:** M. of A. Bendett

**CONGRATULATING** the members of the Hoosic Valley Odyssey of the Mind Teams upon the occasion of winning first place in New York State for their outstanding solutions to their respective problems

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to act, in accord with its long-standing traditions, honoring the youth of today, and leaders of tomorrow, whose character and achievements best exemplify the ideals and values cherished by this great State and Nation; and

**WHEREAS,** This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the members of the Hoosic Valley Odyssey of the Mind Teams upon the occasion of winning first place in New York State for their outstanding solutions to their respective problems on Saturday, April 13, 2024 at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse, New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program in which students from kindergarten through college learn how to think divergently by working as a team to solve an open-ended problem; and

**WHEREAS,** As part of the Odyssey of the Mind program, students also learn creativity, innovation, problem-solving, critical thinking, global awareness, interpersonal and collaborative communication skills, self-directions and adaptability; and

**WHEREAS,** Competing against over 250 teams across New York State, the Hoosic Valley Odyssey of the Mind Teams have won first place in two categories; the Division 2 team captured the championship in problem 5 and the Division 3 team dominated Problem 3 to win the title; and

**WHEREAS,** The two first place teams will be advancing to the Odyssey of the Mind World Tournament at Iowa State University from May 20 through May 25, 2024; and

**WHEREAS,** The Hoosic Valley Division 3 Odyssey of the Mind Team members are: Isabella Schmidt, Evan Antolick, Anna Grace Macica, Terrie Cottrell, Marie Ackerley, Amelia Stannard, and Sophia Wilson; and

**WHEREAS,** The Hoosic Valley Division 2 Odyssey of the Mind Team members are: Laura Rice, Hayley Valcik, Nora Luskin, Makenna Luskin, Sophia Akin, Rileigh Davis, and Brielle Chapko; and

**WHEREAS,** Coach Kyle Schmidt and Coach Margaret Rice have done superb jobs in guiding, molding and inspiring their team members toward their goals; and

**WHEREAS,** Poised eagerly with enthusiasm and determined purpose, these scholars now stand honorably, with just pride in their accomplishments and in eager anticipation of future challenges, understanding and appreciating the caring counsel and support provided

by their coach, teachers, family and friends; and

**WHEREAS,** Educational competition instills the values of teamwork and accomplishment, and these outstanding students have clearly contributed to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of their school; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the members of the Hoosic Valley Odyssey of the Mind Teams upon the occasion of winning first place in New York State for their outstanding solutions to their respective problems; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Coach Kyle Schmidt, Coach Margaret Rice, and the members of the Hoosic Valley Odyssey of the Mind Teams.