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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 431

Offered March 5, 2010

Commending West Potomac High School on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

Patron—Surovell, Englin and Sickles; Senator: Puller

WHEREAS, in 2010 West Potomac High School in Fairfax County, Virginia, celebrates 25 years of providing a learning environment where Excellence is a Tradition; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, after a lengthy community process, West Potomac High School was established with the merger of Fort Hunt High School and Groveton High School; and

WHEREAS, the new school's name, mascot, and school colors were chosen by an election of the new student body of the new West Potomac High School who thereupon went on to establish many new school traditions such as The Rock and a new school fight song; and

WHEREAS, West Potomac High School serves one of the most widely diverse student bodies in the Commonwealth with students from more than 50 countries who speak more than 35 different languages in their homes; and

WHEREAS, West Potomac High School maintains a close relationship with the community, local businesses, and local middle and elementary schools while providing a challenging academic program that includes 19 Advanced Placement classes and many professional technical studies programs through the West Potomac Academy; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded for its academic excellence, West Potomac High School has produced 58 National Merit finalists and 13 National Merit semi-finalists through the years; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, West Potomac High School has had numerous award-winning athletic teams that have served as a unifying force for the student body and broader community to rally around; and

WHEREAS, between 1985 and 2009 West Potomac High School has achieved four state championships in football and girls' cross country in addition to numerous district and regional championships; and

WHEREAS, West Potomac High School has also produced outstanding achievements in debate, forensics, band, It's Academic, the theatre arts, chorus, and science; and

WHEREAS, the debate team has won three state championships while the chorus has performed for Secretary of State Rice and President Clinton, and the band played for President Ronald Reagan and achieved state and national recognition including competition in this year's National Band Festival; and

WHEREAS, West Potomac High School alumni have gone on to play professional football, have professional music careers, professional acting careers, compete in the Olympics, and serve in the 44th House of Delegates District and the Alexandria City Council; and

WHEREAS, for 25 years, West Potomac High School has served as a secure and nurturing environment for its students to excel academically and personally and prepare for lifelong, productive participation in a democratic society; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend West Potomac High School on the occasion of its 25th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Cliff Hardison, Principal of West Potomac High School, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations, admiration, and respect for the school's dedication to its students and community over the past 25 years.

INTRODUCED

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