

2009-J639

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Deidra Graulich upon the occasion of her designation by the Association of Orthodox Jewish Teachers as the recipient of its Elementary School Principal of the Year Award on March 15, 2009

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those illustrious individuals of distinguished purpose whose lives have been committed to the pursuit of excellence in the education of the youth of the Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend Deidra Graulich upon the occasion of her designation by the Association of Orthodox Jewish Teachers of the New York City Public Schools as the recipient of its Elementary School Principal of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, Deidra Graulich, Principal of P.S. 63Q, will be honored at the organization's 39th Annual Luncheon, to be held at The Renaissance in Brooklyn, New York, on Sunday, March 15, 2009, in recognition of her extraordinary leadership skills and her unwavering dedication to the staff and students of P.S. 63; and

WHEREAS, Deidra Graulich's desire to work with children was sparked at an early age by her mother and aunt who were both teachers; she was so motivated that as a young child growing up in Seagate, New York, she gathered up the neighborhood children and started her very own summer camp; and

WHEREAS, Upon graduating from New York University's School of Education, Deidra Graulich married and devoted herself to her family and community; she was called upon to contribute her time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and always gave of herself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, As a stay-at-home mom, Deidra Graulich became the consummate volunteer, serving as President of the Cedarhurst-Woodmere ORT and as a soccer coach, Little League coach, Brownie and Cub Scout leader, and PTA volunteer; and

WHEREAS, As her children grew, Deidra Graulich secured a substitute teaching license, was immediately offered a six week full-time job teaching a special education class and spent the next ten years working with special needs students; while doing so, she returned to school to earn a master's degree in reading and special education and an advanced degree in administration; and

WHEREAS, An outstanding teacher, leader, and administrator, Deidra Graulich continued to rise through the ranks serving as a Teacher Leader, Assistant Principal, and ultimately as Principal of Public School 63 in the Ozone Park area of Queens, where she continues to be a strong advocate for students, deeply committed to ensuring they have the opportunity to receive a quality education; and

WHEREAS, With her throughout have been her husband, Karl, and their children, Lance, Dean, and Heather, all of whom are proud to be part of her life and rejoice in her many achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such accomplishment are brought to our attention it is appropriate to publicly proclaim and commend them for the edification and emulation of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Deidra Graulich upon the occasion of her designation as the recipient of the Association of Orthodox Jewish Teachers' Elementary School Principal of the Year Award on March 15, 2009; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Deidra Graulich.