

2009-J3940

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Wolcott Street School of LeRoy, New York, upon the occasion of its designation as an Emerging School of Character by the Academy for Character Education at Sage College on March 24, 2010

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those institutions of true purpose and high achievement whose exemplary programs and accomplishment clearly demonstrate an enduring pursuit of excellence in the education of the youth of the Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Wolcott Street School of LeRoy, New York, upon the occasion of its designation as an Emerging School of Character by the Academy for Character Education at Sage College at a banquet to be held on Wednesday, March 24, 2010; and

WHEREAS, The Academy for Character Education is an advocate for character education, believing that it provides the basis for developing a stronger, caring community; established in 2000, its mission is to promote character education within the greater community by raising awareness, educating, motivating and facilitating the infusion of positive character traits that become lifelong habits; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the Academy for Character Education is dedicated to the mandate that character education needs to be infused into the curriculum of all schools; therefore, each year, it recognizes those schools such as, Wolcott Street School, which has served as an outstanding leader in character education; and

WHEREAS, Wolcott Street School is committed to teaching good character to its students and reinforcing such behavior in their day-to-day interactions with peers and staff; and

WHEREAS, The staff, administration and teachers of Wolcott Street School strive to send a consistent message to all of its students; all adults within the school community are expected to model appropriate behavior in their interactions, as well as dealing considerately and

consistently with others; students are also expected to respect the rights and feelings of other students, teachers, visitors and staff; and WHEREAS, "Catching Kids Being Good" is the underlying theme of the discipline policy at Wolcott Street School; every class has clearly posted behavior guidelines including: Rules of the Class, rewards for obeying the rules, and consequences for disobeying them; the research behind this idea comes from Lee Canter and his work with "Assertive Discipline"; and

WHEREAS, Once all students know what is expected of them and are familiar with the rewards and consequences, then the stage is set for "Catching Kids Being Good"; good behavior is noted and consistent good behavior is celebrated; extra free time, phone calls to parents, notes home and parties are just some of the ways in which consistent good behavior is both noted and honored; it is one of the building goals of Wolcott Street School to be evermore creative and assertive in how it is to achieve its goal to "Catch Kids Being Good"; and

WHEREAS, However, when misbehavior does occur, it is the student who chooses to behave this way and thus receives the consequences; each grade level's discipline plan, complete with its rules, rewards, and consequences is reviewed with the building principal and then explained to all students; finally, this plan is sent home to each and every parent/guardian; and

WHEREAS, The hope of the parents and staff of Wolcott Street School is that with clear expectations of student conduct and frequent "Catching Kids Being Good," an extremely positive learning environment has been created for the students where they can achieve great academic and personal success; and

WHEREAS, Wolcott Street School has clearly demonstrated an impressive dedication, an unparalleled devotion and an unremitting enthusiasm for the quality of educational programs and opportunities offered for the benefit of its students and faculty as well as for the entire community; and

WHEREAS, Being selected as an Emerging School of Character stands as a resolute testimony to Wolcott Street School's standards of excellence, its uncompromising values, unparalleled dedication, and the special teamwork of its family of students, parents, teachers and administrators, who share common goals and uncommon expectations; now, therefore,

be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Wolcott Street School of LeRoy, New York, upon the occasion of its designation as an Emerging School of Character by the Academy for Character Education at Sage College on March 24, 2010; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Wolcott Street School, LeRoy, New York.