

## 2009-J5356

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the Bedford Academy Boys Basketball Team and Coach Robert Phelps upon the occasion of capturing the Public Schools Athletic League Class A Championship

WHEREAS, Excellence and success in competitive sports can be achieved only through strenuous practice, team play and team spirit, nurtured by dedicated coaching and strategic planning; and

WHEREAS, Athletic competition enhances the moral and physical development of the young people of this State, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the value of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, imparting a desire for success and developing a sense of fair play and competition; and

WHEREAS, The Bedford Academy Boys Basketball Team are the Public Schools Athletic League Class A Champions; Bedford Academy defeated the South Bronx by a score of 76-63; and

WHEREAS, The Bedford Academy Panthers have won their first city championship title in history; the team's academic average is 90 percent, with the highest average being 99.93; and

WHEREAS, Established in September of 2003, Bedford Academy High School was founded solely for providing quality education in the Bedford Stuyvesant community; in its first year, the school was held in the basement of Benjamin Banneker High School, and its second year at Brooklyn High School for the Arts; Bedford Academy moved into its new home on Bedford Avenue in September of 2005; and

WHEREAS, Under the leadership of Principal Adofo Muhammad, Bedford Academy is presently ranked as the number two school in New York City and number one in Brooklyn, earning an "A" on the New York City Department of Education's Progress Report since its inception; and

WHEREAS, Ninety percent of the students who attend Bedford Academy

have passed every Regents exam in all subject areas, thereby earning Advanced Regents diplomas and making Bedford Academy's graduation rate ninety-six percent; and

WHEREAS, The athletic talent displayed by this team is due in great part to the efforts of Coach Robert Phelps and his team of outstanding assistant coaches, skilled and inspirational tutors, respected for their ability to develop potential into excellence; and

WHEREAS, The team's overall record is outstanding, and the team members were loyally and enthusiastically supported by family, fans, friends and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, The hallmarks of the Bedford Academy Boys Basketball Team, from the opening game of the season to participation in the Championship, were a brotherhood of athletic ability, of good sportsmanship, of honor and of scholarship, demonstrating that these team players are second to none; and

WHEREAS, Athletically and academically, the team members have proven themselves to be an unbeatable combination of talents, reflecting favorably on their school; and

WHEREAS, Coach Robert Phelps and his dedicated staff have done a superb job in guiding, molding and inspiring the team members toward their goals; and

WHEREAS, Sports competition instills the values of teamwork, pride and accomplishment, and Coach Robert Phelps and these outstanding athletes have clearly made a contribution 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 Bedford Academy Boys Basketball Team; its members: Lamel Bannerman, Leonard Brown, Malik Brown, Gianni Carrington, Yves

Casimir, Brandon Craigwell, Brent Jones, Christophe Kotel, Anthony Mason Jr., Olisaeloka Olisah, Tavonte Reid, Massamba Samb, Sean Snagg, Denzel Williams, Amadu Baam Cinque Durham, Cody Freeman, Mikal George, and

Donavin Savage and Coach Robert Phelps on their outstanding season and overall team record; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Bedford Academy Boys Basketball Team, Coach Robert Phelps, and to Principal Adofo Muhammad.