

2009-K1644

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring West Islip School District Superintendent of Schools Dr. Beth Virginia Blau upon the occasion of her retirement after many years of dedicated service as an educator

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly acknowledge individuals of remarkable integrity and character whose endeavors have enhanced the quality of education in this great State; and

WHEREAS, The result of many individuals' efforts, the excellence and the success of the West Islip Public Schools is due in large part to the efforts of its retiring Superintendent, Dr. Beth Virginia Blau; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor West Islip School District Superintendent of Schools Dr. Beth Virginia Blau upon the occasion of her retirement after many years of dedicated service as an educator; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated on October 1, 2010, at an event to be held in her honor at Captain Bill's in Bay Shore, New York; and

WHEREAS, West Islip School District Superintendent of Schools since 2001, Dr. Beth Virginia Blau is retiring after many dedicated years of service as an educator; and

WHEREAS, Prior to assuming her duties as Superintendent of Schools for the West Islip School District, Dr. Beth Virginia Blau was the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction for the District from 1998 to 2001; she also served as the District's Director of Humanities, K-12 from 1995 to 1998; and

WHEREAS, From 1986 to 1995, Dr. Beth Virginia Blau was the Director of Reading, K-12, Title 1 and Compensatory Services for the Long Beach City School District; and

WHEREAS, During her tenure as West Islip School District Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Beth Virginia Blau crafted and presented multiple successful budgets to the community; obtained significant federal and legislative grant monies for drug prevention programs, technology, and post 9-11 security; and a global communications laboratory; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Dr. Beth Virginia Blau negotiated timely contracts with the professional and non-certified staff and introduced a tenure-based salary structure for administrators; she also designed and instituted an Alternative High School and sponsored implementation of the International Baccalaureate Program and Advanced Placement Art; and WHEREAS, Dr. Beth Virginia Blau is a member of the American Association of School Administrators, Phi Delta Kappa, and the New York State Council of School Superintendents; she is also on the Board of Directors of West Islip Remembers 9-11, and a member of both the Babylon Chapter of Rotary and Suffolk County School Superintendents Association; and WHEREAS, Among Dr. Beth Virginia Blau's numerous affiliations, awards and activities are: being named an Educator of Excellence by the New York State English Council; honorary life memberships in both the National English Honor Society and PTA; honorary membership in Tri-M -- Music Honor Society; and the Education Award from Partners Advancing West Islip Students (PAWS); she won a Hofstra University Doctoral Fellowship in 1984 and in 2005 received the Achievement in Educational Communications Award of Excellence; and WHEREAS, Dr. Beth Virginia Blau is a Trustee of PAWS which she originated in 2004 to bring current and former community members together in support of West Islip children and their education; and WHEREAS, The recipient of a B.A. degree in History and Education (1968) and a M.S. in Social Studies (1971) from Brooklyn College, Dr.

Beth Virginia Blau also received a M.S. in Reading in 1976 from Queens College; she earned her C.A.S. in Administration and Policy Studies (1986) and her Ed.D. in Language and Cognition from Hofstra University (1987); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Beth Virginia Blau has continually demonstrated an impressive dedication, an unparalleled devotion and an unremitting enthusiasm for the quality of the educational programs and opportunities offered in the West Islip School District for the benefit of its faculty and students, as well as for the entire community; and

WHEREAS, In completing her many years of service as an educator, Dr. Beth Virginia Blau leaves behind more than mere bricks and mortar; she leaves behind a legacy to the residents of the West Islip community and to future generations of its students; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

honor and commend Dr. Beth Virginia Blau upon the occasion of her retirement, and for her significant contributions to education in New York State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to West Islip School District Superintendent of Schools Dr.

Beth Virginia Blau, 1193 Julia Lane, North Bellmore, New York 11710.