

2011-J4776

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 90th Anniversary Celebration of Brooklyn Technical High School

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those institutions of commitment and high achievement whose purpose and endeavors prove a dedication to the pursuit of excellence in the education of the youth of this noble Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 90th Anniversary Celebration of Brooklyn Technical High School, to be celebrated on Thursday, June 7, 2012; and

WHEREAS, This fine event will also recognize the three founders of the Brooklyn Technical High School Alumni Foundation; they are: Mathew M. Mandery, Class of 1961; Achilles Perry, Class of 1958; and Michael A. Weiss, Class of 1957; and

WHEREAS, The Foundation has brought Tech graduates together to enhance and support excellence at the school that has shaped their lives; its first grant enabled the teachers to buy curtains for their lunchroom and one of its most recent grants is creating a sophisticated Computer Integrated Manufacturing lab unlike anything in a New York City public high school; from simple beginnings to a robust program of curriculum and facilities enhancement, teacher development and student enrichment beyond the classroom, the Alumni Foundation is making a difference; and

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Technical High School has been a proven leader in science, technology, engineering and mathematics-based education; its administration and faculty, as well as the Alumni Foundation, are committed to maintaining and enhancing the quality of education being offered; and

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Technical High School was the dream of Dr. Albert L. Colston, mathematics department chairman at Manual Training High School; in the aftermath of World War I, he believed the country needed a better trained technical work force; on October 18, 1918, he presented a paper to the Brooklyn Engineers' Club recommending establishment of a technical high school curriculum for Brooklyn boys; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Colston envisioned a high school with a heavy concentration of courses in math, science, drafting and shops; he particularly wanted a school with parallel paths leading either to college or to a technical career in industry; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Colston's concept was approved and implemented beginning in 1919 at Manual Training High School and, in the spring of 1922, the Board of Education approved the establishment of Brooklyn Technical High School (BTHS) which opened in the fall of 1922; Dr. Colston was named principal and 40 Manual Training teachers joined him in a converted warehouse at 49 Flatbush Avenue Extension to start the new school; and

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Technical High School is proudly aware of its distinguished past, eager to fulfill its present commitment to parents, students and the community, and planning with vision and purpose for the ebb and swell of growth and change it will encounter in the years to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 90th Anniversary Celebration of Brooklyn Technical High School; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Brooklyn Technical High School, and to the aforementioned honorees.