

2013-J505

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Nazareth Regional High School in Brooklyn, New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend institutions of true purpose and high achievement whose exemplary programs and accomplishments clearly demonstrate the pursuit of excellence in education and service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Nazareth Regional High School in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, The first semester of the initial year of Nazareth High School was spent at the newly completed Bishop Kearney High School since Nazareth's building was yet unfinished; in the spring of 1963, Bishop Brian McEntegart dedicated the new building, and the first class of freshmen joined the small Nazareth faculty in moving into their own school; and

WHEREAS, Brother John Olsen, C.F.X., served as Nazareth's first principal until 1966; he, and the other Xaverian Brothers and Catholic laymen who administered and staffed the new school, centered the goals of Nazareth around the theme "wisdom, age, and favor with God"; and

WHEREAS, The first class of Nazareth Kingsmen graduated in June of 1966; Nazareth prospered as a progressive educational institution; in 1974, the principal, Brother Mathew Burke, with the encouragement of Bishop Francis Mugavero, formed a new Catholic school governed by a board of trustees because the diocese could no longer continue to subsidize the school; and

WHEREAS, The new school was called Nazareth Regional High School and was staffed mostly by Catholic laypersons along with some religious men and women; in 1976, the school admitted women for the first time, and in June, 1980 the first female valedictorian was selected; and

WHEREAS, In 1994, Nazareth Regional High School was formally affiliated with the network of schools sponsored by the Xaverian Brothers' American Province; as a Xaverian Brothers sponsored school, Nazareth is

part of a proud and distinguished legacy of educational excellence that is the Xaverian Brothers' tradition; and

WHEREAS, Today Nazareth is a fully developed Catholic, co-educational, secondary school serving students from parochial, private, and public schools throughout Brooklyn and parts of Queens; it boasts a graduation rate of 99% with 95% of its students heading directly into college and securing a significant amount in scholarships; and

WHEREAS, Nazareth Regional High School offers a safe, caring and nurturing environment where students of all abilities can pursue their interest in the following programs: pre-med, nursing, the technology academy (ranked no. 20 in the world out of 786 competing schools), and pre-law; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Nazareth Regional High School encourages its students to get involved in after-school extracurricular activities, including: baseball, football, junior statesmen assembly, speech and debate, softball, and volleyball along with many other clubs and activities; and

WHEREAS, Nazareth Regional High School in Brooklyn, New York continues to fulfill its laudatory educational purposes and is proudly aware of its distinguished past; it is eager to fulfill its commitment to its students, faculty, alumni and community, and is planning with vision and purpose for the growth and change it will encounter in the years to come; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when an educational institution of such noble aims and accomplishments is brought to our attention, it should be recognized and applauded by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Nazareth Regional High School in Brooklyn, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Nazareth Regional High School in Brooklyn, New York.