

2015-J617

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Erin Lynch upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Educator of the Year Award by the Bensonhurst West End Community Council

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding individuals whose professional lives, personal endeavors and community service are an example and inspiration to their colleagues, friends, and family; and

WHEREAS, It is also 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, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Erin Lynch upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Educator of the Year Award by the Bensonhurst West End Community Council to be celebrated at its 54th Anniversary Gala, at El Caribe, Brooklyn, New York on Thursday, March 5, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Erin Lynch earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Joseph's College in Brooklyn; upon graduation, she began teaching seventh and eighth grade Social Studies at St. Cecilia's School in Greenpoint, Brooklyn; and

WHEREAS, Erin Lynch then received her Master's degree in Secondary Education from St. John's University in Jamaica, New York, and went on to acquire a second Master's degree in School Administration and Supervision from Mercy College in New York; and

WHEREAS, For the next eight years, Erin Lynch was a teacher at Ditmas Junior High School 62 in Brooklyn, before rising through the ranks, securing the acclaimed position of Dean; and

WHEREAS, During her tenure in this capacity, Erin Lynch led the movement in curriculum writing to bring literacy and Social Studies together to improve literacy rates in middle school; for this effort, she was bestowed the Ready Set Tech Award by the Teacher's Network; and

WHEREAS, Erin Lynch's entire career has been focused on bringing technology into the schools, lives, and homes of economically challenged families; she was a co-organizer of Our Neighborhood Digital Education Community (OnDec), a program partnership with JPMorgan Chase; this vital program brought digital literacy to hundreds of middle school families by educating parents and installing free computers into the homes of every student at her school; and

WHEREAS, In 2010, Erin Lynch joined the team at Seth Low IS 96 in Brooklyn, as Assistant Principal; with her new role as an Administrator, she was excited at the opportunity to bring technology into classrooms; and

WHEREAS, In 2011, Erin Lynch wrote and received a grant to make Seth Low IS 96 a Connected Learning school, which involved a three prong program to get school communities on the road to digital literacy; every one of her students received free home computers and families received technology training, as well as training and opportunities for teachers to learn how to bring technology into their classrooms to differentiate instruction and improve student outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Seth Low IS 96 was also given the chance to receive hardware and software support to sustain the program and create a digital home-school bond; as a result, Erin Lynch raised expectations for her students and put them on a path of college and career readiness; and

WHEREAS, In addition, on behalf of Seth Low IS 96, Erin Lynch accepted an iLearn grant which trained and supported teachers to create blended learning classrooms; Seth Low became a Lab School serving as a site where administrators and teachers from around the city have the opportunity to observe and learn how to introduce blended learning models of

teaching into their schools; and

WHEREAS, After four years serving as Assistant Principal, Erin Lynch became the Principal of Seth Low IS 96 in 2014; she continues to seek out programs and partnerships that will make the school unique while nurturing the creative talents and academic abilities of all students and teachers; and

WHEREAS, Under Erin Lynch's capable tutelage, Seth Low IS 96 students have made significant academic progress on New York State exams, and every single teacher was rated Effective under the new teacher evaluation system; and

WHEREAS, Recently, Seth Low IS 96 has become a Community School which will bring in a significant amount of funding and resources to support students and their families, as well as the entire Bensonhurst community; and

WHEREAS, The driving force behind Erin Lynch's commitment to public education is her belief that all children have the potential to do great things if given the opportunity; she prides herself on creating an educational environment where students come first and expectations are high; and

WHEREAS, Erin Lynch has worked tirelessly throughout her career to provide meaningful educational opportunities for students, partnering with all constituencies to support the instructional program in schools and the social and emotional development of children; under her leadership, schools have been focused on implementing effective strategies within schools and educating each child in each school each day; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her professional and community service, a period of constructive involvement, Erin Lynch has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor, and has earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues, family and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Erin Lynch upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of

the 2015 Educator of the Year Award by the Bensonhurst West End Community Council; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Erin Lynch.