

2015-J2562

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring David Rivera upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Dr. Shine Award by the Manhasset Board of Education

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to act, in accord with its long-standing traditions, honoring the youth of today, and leaders of tomorrow, whose character and achievements best exemplify the ideals and values cherished by this great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor David Rivera upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Dr. Shine Award by the Manhasset Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, The coveted Dr. Shine Award memorializes the legacy of Dr. Shine, whose progressive leadership embraces a commitment to providing the best educational opportunity for each and every student; the award recognizes young people who have the courage to work towards the fulfillment of a vision for themselves through a strong humanitarian commitment to others; and

WHEREAS, David Rivera is currently in the 11th grade at Manhasset High School; his hard work in the classroom inspires other students to achieve success, and his ability to overcome obstacles is well known within the school; and

WHEREAS, In 2010, David Rivera arrived in the United States from El Salvador and was placed in regular 7th grade classes with ESL support services; despite support, he failed all of his classes that year due to not yet understanding English; and

WHEREAS, Then David Rivera was enrolled in Mrs. Doulton's Intensive Reading class; when he entered the class, he demonstrated little confidence and felt that he would likely fail all of his classes again that year; at the time, his only goal was to learn how to read, so he could

leave school at age 16, and get a job; and

WHEREAS, After a few short weeks with Mrs. Doulton, David Rivera's extraordinary transformation had begun; he smiled more in school and started to interact with staff and the other students; he was happy with the progress he was making in class and his attitude towards school greatly improved; and

WHEREAS, David Rivera's subject class teachers noticed an improvement in his effort as well; through his hard work and support, David passed 8th grade English and Social Studies that year; and

WHEREAS, David Rivera worked very hard to improve his English language and reading skills; he would read the newspaper with his classmates, assisted others, and often borrowed Read 180 books from the library to read at home during weekends and holidays; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable young man was determined to improve his reading comprehension so he could independently succeed in his classes; by the end of 8th grade, David's lexile score has risen a remarkable 500 points; in December of his 9th grade, it was determined through testing that he was an advanced decoder; and

WHEREAS, David Rivera's success extended to his other classes; he earned mostly As and Bs in his content-area subjects that second quarter; since then, he has overcome many obstacles and has given credit to the reading intervention that he received; and

WHEREAS, David Rivera Believes System 44 helped him to communicate with other people, and because of this, he can get more involved in school activities and make friends; the world is his oyster, because he can now effectively communicate with his peers and teachers and has demonstrated that he has become a lifelong reader and now has the tools and motivation to succeed in life; and

WHEREAS, Since it is the attitude of our children that will most influence our future course of government, the future of our society is dependent upon our instilling within our children the concepts of indi-

vidual responsibility and good citizenship; and

WHEREAS, Throughout New York State, our young people are lovingly and thoughtfully demonstrating a sense of civic and community responsibility in a variety of socially oriented projects for the betterment of their neighbors and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, David Rivera now stands with just pride in assessing his achievements; recognizing the value of his experience, the satisfaction of his labors and the joy of his accomplishments, appreciative of the support of his family and teachers, and eager to face the challenge of new experience; now, therefor, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor David Rivera upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Dr. Shine Award by the Manhasset Board of Education; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitable engrossed, be transmitted to David Rivera.