

2015-J4809

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Donna Neglia upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2016 Woman of the Year Award by the Bensonhurst West End Community Council on May 4, 2016

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

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 Donna Neglia upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2016 Woman of the Year Award by the Bensonhurst West End Community Council to be celebrated at its 55th Annual Gala, at El Caribe, Brooklyn, New York, on Wednesday, May 4, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Born and raised in Marine Park, Brooklyn, New York, Donna Neglia was inspired by her nurturing teachers at Fontbonne Hall Academy in Brooklyn to become an educator; and

WHEREAS, Donna Neglia earned her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from St. John's University in Queens, New York; upon graduation, she began her career in education at PS 188 in District 21, in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Just two years later, Donna Neglia furthered her education by

obtaining her master's degree in Elementary Education and Literacy from The College of Staten Island; during this time, she developed her skills as a classroom teacher, as well as her passion for literacy; and WHEREAS, In 2003, Donna Neglia and her husband, Steve were blessed with the birth of their twins, Emily and Andrew; after a short leave, Donna successfully applied to the UFT Teacher Center and was granted a position as a Literacy Coach/UFT Teacher Center Specialist at PS 186; and

WHEREAS, Donna Neglia quickly became part of a dynamic team which facilitated a variety of professional learning experiences, including demo lessons, workshops, study groups, and curriculum mapping; she continued her own studies, through a partnership with Teacher's College and worked as a presenter for the UFT Teacher Center's Literacy Networks for five years; and

WHEREAS, In 2007, Donna Neglia gave birth to her son, Stephen; in that same year, she was recognized as Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Three years later, Donna Neglia entered the New York City Department of Education's Leadership in Education Apprenticeship Program (LEAP); through this vital program's summer-intensive and year-long internship program, she earned her School Administration Certification; and

WHEREAS, After her internship, Donna Neglia served as Assistant Principal of PS 186 and an invaluable partner with NIA in the PS 186/NIA Expanded initiative, the largest entity of 11 schools in three cities involved in a national demonstration project led by TASC and supported by both public and private funding; as a result of their combined efforts, PS 186 and NIA increased learning time by 30% with enriching educational and creative activities for over 500 children daily; and

WHEREAS, In 2014, Donna Neglia accepted the esteemed position of Principal of PS 216; in her brief tenure as principal, PS 216 has already been recognized as one of New York City's Showcase Schools; in addition,

this vital educational institution has been named a Leader in Me School;
and

WHEREAS, With her throughout have been her supportive husband, Steve Neglia, and her three loving children, Emily, Andrew and Stephen, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of her life and rejoice in her achievements; and

WHEREAS, Principal Donna Neglia and her dedicated staff continue to build a collaborative professional learning community, committed to providing a rigorous and supportive learning environment for all of the students that the school serves; and

WHEREAS, Donna Neglia has brought great credit upon herself by continually demonstrating an impressive dedication, an unparalleled devotion and an unrelenting enthusiasm for the quality of the educational programs and opportunities offered at the schools where she has served; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her professional service, a period of constructive involvement, Donna Neglia 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 Donna Neglia upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2016 Woman 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 Donna Neglia.