

## 2015-J6188

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 60th Anniversary of The Brookside School in Cottekill, New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom 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 60th Anniversary of The Brookside School in Cottekill, New York, to be celebrated at an Anniversary Alumni Reunion Picnic on Saturday, June 25, 2016, at The Brookside School Campus, Cottekill, New York; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1956, The Brookside School, formerly The Arc Center, started in the basement of Temple Emmanuel in Kingston, New York, for children whose parents bucked the trend at the time of sending their children with disabilities to an institution; this was a momentous civil and human rights movement for people with disabilities which continues today; and

WHEREAS, The Brookside School has served children from throughout the Hudson Valley and Catskill Mountains region; this milestone marks the beginning of its 60 year partnership with The Arc of Ulster-Greene whose mission is to support children and adults with developmental and other disabilities; and

WHEREAS, The Brookside School provides services for students with disabilities from ages three to 21 as well as an integrated preschool program for 3 to 5 year-old children from the community; it is also an approved Universal Pre-Kindergarten provider for the Rondout Valley Central School District; and

WHEREAS, As students graduated from The Brookside School, parents also realized the need for adult services; The Arc of Ulster-Greene grew to support more than 1,200 people annually over the course of their lifetimes through educational and clinical services, employment training and job placement, day and community habilitation, advocacy, guardianship, and residential services; and

WHEREAS, Today, The Brookside School continues to achieve its laudatory educational goals, and is eager to fulfill its commitment to its students, faculty, and others, while planning with vision and purpose for the growth and change it will encounter in the years to come; and

WHEREAS, The success of The Brookside School is in direct correlation to the efforts of its faculty and staff, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of this remarkable institution and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when educational institutions of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they 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 60th Anniversary of The Brookside School in Cottekill, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Brookside School, Cottekill, New York.