

2015-K1523

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the Eagle Academy Foundation and the Eagle Academy for Young Men of The Bronx for academic excellence

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those institutions of true purpose and high achievement whose exemplary programs and accomplishment clearly demonstrate an enduring pursuit of excellence in the education of the youth of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the Eagle Academy Foundation and the Eagle Academy for Young Men of The Bronx for academic excellence; and

WHEREAS, The Eagle Academy Foundation develops and supports a network of all male, grades 6 through 12, college-preparatory schools in challenged, urban communities that educate and mentor young men of color into future leaders committed to excellence in character, scholastic achievement and community service, and to promote these principles nationally; and

WHEREAS, Each Eagle Academy features parental engagement, academic rigor, college prep, extended day and Saturday programs, rituals, summer programs and mentoring, all of which are supported by the Eagle Academy Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Across the Eagle network, the six Eagle Academies serve more than 2,300 scholars in all five boroughs of New York City and Newark, New Jersey; remaining true to its mission, the Eagle Academies develop young men committed to the pursuit of academic excellence, strong character and responsible leadership; and

WHEREAS, For the 2014-2015 school year, the Eagle Academy Network graduation rate for African American and Latino males is 83% compared to

53% in New York City and 59% nationally; 98% of Eagle Bronx graduates were accepted into college during that school year; and

WHEREAS, The Eagle Academy Foundation is led by the phenomenal visionary and leader, David C. Banks, and Eagle Academy for Young Men of The Bronx is under the direction of Principal Hector Valazquez; these two leaders show the young scholars they can excel and thrive despite their economic backgrounds when they "see themselves as eagles, with strength, courage, vision, and power. They aspire to the highest ideals."; and

WHEREAS, The Eagle Academy Foundation empowers at-risk inner city young men to become academic achievers, engaged citizens, and responsible men by providing quality education resources and proven effective community-based initiatives to address the shortfalls in public education to effectively educate them; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the Eagle Academy for Young Men of The Bronx, noting the importance of its work and its worthy commitment to the youth of New York State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the Eagle Academy Foundation and the Eagle Academy for Young Men of The Bronx for academic excellence; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to David C. Banks and Principal Hector Valazquez.