

No. R-446. House concurrent resolution congratulating Rutland Senior High School Principal William Olsen on being named the 2014 Vermont Principal of the Year

(H.C.R.333)

Offered by: Representatives Fagan of Rutland City, Burditt of West Rutland, Cupoli of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Potter of Clarendon, Russell of Rutland City, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Offered by: Senators Flory, French, and Mullin

Whereas, the students and teachers at Rutland Senior High School (RSHS) are fortunate that, since 2009, William Olsen has served as their innovative principal, and

Whereas, he began his scholastic career serving for six years as an RSHS teacher, and

Whereas, William Olsen's success in the classroom led to his appointment as the assistant principal at the Rutland Middle School, and

Whereas, he was given rave reviews for his leadership, and

Whereas, five years ago, the position of principal at Rutland Senior High School became vacant, and William Olsen was the obvious choice, and

Whereas, his reputation and credentials were such an ideal match that the district did not conduct any external advertising for the job, and

Whereas, Rutland City Superintendent Mary Moran has described William Olsen as "the teacher every parent wanted for their children, the middle school assistant principal whom countless students sought out for advice," and

Whereas, she has stated that his RSHS principalship has been transformative, making the school "more student-centered, rigorous, and relevant," and

Whereas, under his leadership, RSHS has adopted new approaches to instruction and assessment as well as new forms of intervention to keep struggling students from failing, and

Whereas, at a recent Global Issues Network conference, RSHS students gave presentations on a variety of topics, ranging from health to cyberbullying, alongside experts in these respective fields, and

Whereas, William Olsen described his work at RSHS as an effort to redesign the school, and

Whereas, through all of these developments, William Olsen has minimized his role, emphasizing the participation of the entire RSHS community, and

Whereas, despite this modesty, the Vermont Principals Association (VPA) recognized that William Olsen is an outstanding educational leader and has named him its 2014 Principal of the Year, and

Whereas, this well-deserved honor will be presented to William Olsen at the VPA's luncheon on April 30, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Rutland Senior High School Principal William Olsen on being named the 2014 Vermont Principal of the Year, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to William Olsen.