

No. R-211. House concurrent resolution congratulating Duane Pierson on receiving the 2017 Henry R. Giaguque Vermont Elementary Principal of the Year Award.

(H.C.R.172)

Offered by: Representatives Grad of Moretown, Greshin of Warren, Stevens of Waterbury, and Wood of Waterbury

Offered by: Senators Brooks, Cummings, and Pollina

Whereas, Duane Pierson graduated from the universities of Scranton and Victoria, earned his principal's certification at the University of Vermont, and worked as an educator in Alaska and Maine before joining the Harwood Union Middle/High School faculty in 2001, and in 2005, he was appointed the school's principal, a choice that proved ideal, and

Whereas, in 2011, Duane Pierson accepted the daunting challenge of the Moretown Elementary School principal's job with the goal of revitalizing a school desperately in need of new leadership and a fresh perspective, and

Whereas, before school even opened in September 2011, Duane Pierson was confronted with the nearly unimaginable devastation of Tropical Storm Irene that flooded the school and much of the town, and

Whereas, recognizing that the students craved a sense of continuity at this difficult time, the first week of school featured daily field trips, and a tent network of classrooms was then established in the school yard until the building was ready to welcome students, and

Whereas, Duane Pierson has established the Moretown Education Center for All, known as MECA, consisting of highly praised pre-school daycare, K-6 after-school, and summer camp programs; implemented proficiency-based and personalized education for all students; created the Moretown Messenger, a student-produced newsletter; and fostered a more cooperative relationship between the Moretown School District and the town's selectboard, and

Whereas, he has been described as an amazing human being, he transformed a school that was in crisis into a nurturing and thriving learning community, and he was recently admitted into the Snelling School Leadership program, and

Whereas, in appreciation and admiration, the Washington West Supervisory Union nominated Duane Pierson for the 2017 Henry R. Giaguque Vermont Elementary Principal of the Year Award, and the accompanying effusive letters of support from the superintendent, the local schoolboard and parent teacher network chairs, a selectboard member, and classroom teachers persuaded the selection panel to adopt this irresistible recommendation, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Duane Pierson on receiving the 2017 Henry R. Giaguque Vermont Elementary Principal of the Year Award, and be it further

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