

No. R-425. House concurrent resolution congratulating George Thomson on being named the 2018 Vermont Elementary School Principal of the Year.

(H.C.R.351)

Offered by: Representatives Devereux of Mount Holly and Christensen of Weathersfield

Offered by: Senators Clarkson, McCormack, and Nitka

Whereas, George Thomson exemplifies the best traits in an elementary school principal and cares deeply about his students and faculty, and

Whereas, he graduated from Hartwick College in Oneonta, New York and earned a master's degree at Fitchburg State University in Massachusetts, and

Whereas, for nearly two decades, George Thomson was employed at the Eagle Hill School, a private college preparatory school in Massachusetts for students with learning challenges, and ultimately served as its headmaster, and

Whereas, in 1989, he relocated to Vermont to assume the principalship at the Cavendish Town Elementary School (CTES), a role he has served enthusiastically and effectively and that will conclude this spring, and

Whereas, every school day begins with the morning welcoming ceremonies around the school's flagpole, where daily announcements are made and students' birthdays are recognized, and

Whereas, on entering the building, students, faculty, and guests are greeted with positive motivational banners, a series of historical paintings, and exhibits of school artifacts that contribute to the warm atmosphere that George Thomson believes is essential for an optimum learning experience, and

Whereas, George Thomson makes special efforts to improve his students' health and nutrition through offering breakfast at the school, writing an annual grant for fresh fruit snacks, and supporting an annual health fair and other health-related activities, and

Whereas, all faculty and he are trained in the Responsive Classroom philosophy, and he has established an effective anti-bullying program, and

Whereas, because of his special effort, CTES has hosted arts residencies in ceramics, dance, music, papermaking, printmaking, and theater, and

Whereas, George Thomson has many community leadership roles, and

Whereas, his having halted a prior attempt to nominate him to be honored as the Vermont Elementary Principal of the Year, the faculty secretly submitted his nomination, and he was deservedly so honored with this award, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates George Thomson on being named the 2018 Vermont Elementary School Principal of the Year, and be it further

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