

2020 -- S 2163

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LC004118  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

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SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING CURTIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, PAWTUCKET, RHODE ISLAND,  
ON BEING NAMED A 2019 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

Introduced By: Senators Cano, Conley, Crowley, Nesselbush, and Ruggerio

Date Introduced: February 04, 2020

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, Being named a National Blue Ribbon School is the pinnacle of national  
2 awards for schools in the United States. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program began in  
3 1982 as a way to recognize public and private elementary, middle, and high schools based on  
4 their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps. This prestigious  
5 award was only presented to the 362 highest performing schools across the country; and

6           WHEREAS, Curtis Elementary School, a Title 1 school, has approximately 390 students,  
7 attending grades K-6, and has earned the recognition of being named a National Blue Ribbon  
8 School in the category of “exemplary achievement gap closing schools,” which means that it was  
9 among the highest performing schools in closing achievement gaps between various student  
10 groups and all students. In other words, none of the school's students, including multilingual and  
11 special education students, were low performing on the latest round of the RICAS; and

12           WHEREAS, This official recognition by the United States Department of Education is a  
13 momentous achievement and validates the school's strong commitment and the dedicated support  
14 of its principal, teachers, students and parents to constantly improve what is already an exemplary  
15 school; and

16           WHEREAS, Curtis Elementary School impressed officials representing this prestigious  
17 national program with such innovative efforts as the school's organized weekly grade-level  
18 professional learning communities, and with the fact that 72 percent of the school's students  
19 showed high growth in mathematics on the initial Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment

1 System exam for the 2017-2018 school year; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations is  
3 hereby pleased and proud to congratulate Curtis Elementary School on being named a 2019  
4 National Blue Ribbon School; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
6 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Cheryl McWilliams, Interim Superintendent,  
7 Pawtucket School Department, and Michael Lazzareschi, former Curtis Elementary Principal.

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