



HR0392

LRB104 12919 LAW 24459 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to recognize seven individuals on the occasion of Mary Lyon School's 100th anniversary whose contributions to the Chicago-based elementary school have helped shape the success of its students, staff, and mission; and

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WHEREAS, Jose Quiles has made exceptional contributions to Mary Lyon School and the surrounding community, playing a pivotal role in supporting the school through various efforts for many years; notably, in 2014, he helped raise funds and garnered community support from the Chicago Mayor's Office and elected State officials to help improve Mary Lyon School for future generations through the Field for Our Future project; his advocacy and tireless work in securing community backing were crucial in bringing about significant improvements, including the school's new building in 1998 and the modular building in 2016; additionally, his service to the Local School Council (LSC) for over 30 years reflects his deep commitment to the school's growth and success; his dedication has benefited the school and impacted generations of students, as his family, including sons, daughters, and grandchildren, have all attended Mary Lyon School; his legacy continues to inspire and will be remembered for many years to come; for his

1 outstanding service, dedication, and unwavering support, Mary
2 Lyon School will be expressing its appreciation; and

3 WHEREAS, Sandy Blake and her mother, Judge Susan Christine
4 O'Meara Getzendanner, have made remarkable contributions to
5 Mary Lyon School, especially in the development of the school
6 library; they have generously donated thousands of dollars
7 over many years, significantly enriching the resources
8 available to students, and their commitment to fostering a
9 love of reading has profoundly impacted countless children in
10 the school community; Sandy Blake, a dedicated teacher and
11 librarian, has also been a pivotal force in supporting and
12 leading the school's Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
13 initiatives, and her advocacy for SEL has played a critical
14 role in creating a positive and supportive learning
15 environment for students; beyond her work in the classroom,
16 she has worked tirelessly to secure grants and support for the
17 school, including the Access Books program, which brought an
18 abundance of new books to the school library, giving students
19 greater opportunities to explore and engage with literature
20 and expand their horizons; she has also rallied community
21 members to support the school, ensuring that students have
22 access to the resources and tools they need to succeed; for
23 their ongoing dedication and contributions that have made a
24 lasting and transformative impact, Mary Lyon School will be
25 expressing its esteem; and

1 WHEREAS, Eloise Kelly has provided exceptional service and
2 dedication to the education of Mary Lyon School students; with
3 over 40 years of service to the elementary school and the
4 Chicago Public Schools, she has made a lasting impact on the
5 lives of countless children, all of whom have benefited from
6 her expertise and passion for teaching; she served as a
7 primary teacher at Mary Lyon School, where she shared her vast
8 knowledge and experience with generations of students; her
9 commitment to providing quality education and fostering a
10 nurturing learning environment made her a beloved figure
11 within the school community; most recently, she dedicated her
12 professional career to supporting students through leading the
13 school's intervention program; for her outstanding
14 contributions, Mary Lyon School will be dedicating a
15 first-floor hallway as the Ms. Kelly Hallway, with a plaque
16 serving as a tribute to her long and distinguished career; and

17 WHEREAS, Matthew Morgenthau left a legacy of dedicated
18 service and commitment to the Mary Lyon School community;
19 known for his favorite phrase, "Calliente", meaning "hot" in
20 Spanish, he brought an infectious energy and enthusiasm to
21 everything he did while tirelessly advocating for the students
22 and families of Mary Lyon School; he was instrumental in the
23 growth and development of the school, playing a key role in
24 securing the new modular building, the school addition in

1 1998, and the Field for Our Future project; his dedication was
2 evident in his service as a community representative and a
3 valued member of LSC; for his extraordinary contributions,
4 Mary Lyon School will be dedicating the Cafeteria and
5 Multipurpose Room in his memory, demonstrating the enduring
6 impact his efforts have left on the school and its dear regard
7 for his decades of commitment; and

8 WHEREAS, Luis Coss has been a steadfast advocate for the
9 children of Mary Lyon School for many years, contributing in
10 countless ways to ensure their safety, growth, and
11 development; his commitment to the school has been unmatched,
12 serving as a dedicated member of LSC and a parent
13 representative; his work on behalf of students and their
14 families has made a lasting impact, and his efforts to ensure
15 children cross safely and are provided with a welcoming
16 environment are truly appreciated by all; for his tireless
17 work and dedication, Mary Lyon School will be dedicating the
18 Causeway Entrance Area by Door 8 in his name, a special
19 entrance that will serve as a symbol of his commitment to the
20 school and the many ways he has helped its children and
21 community thrive; and

22 WHEREAS, Michael and Denise Spano have provided many years
23 of devoted service and commitment to Mary Lyon School and the
24 school community; their family has been an integral part of

1 the school for many years, with their children attending Lyon
2 Middle School; Michael Spano served as the first chairperson
3 of the LSC, a position he held for 10 years; his leadership was
4 instrumental in shaping the school's direction and fostering a
5 strong sense of community, with his contributions going far
6 beyond his role as a parent; Denise Spano served as a teaching
7 assistant and further gave to the school in any way she could;
8 both have exemplified the true spirit of service, always
9 putting students first and working tirelessly to support their
10 success; as parents, community representatives, and dedicated
11 members of the Lyon School family, their legacy continues to
12 inspire; their three children, who all graduated from the
13 school, are a testament to their enduring impact on the
14 educational institution; for their lifelong contributions and
15 many years of selfless service, Mary Lyon School will be
16 dedicating the Door 2 Entranceway in their honor; and

17 WHEREAS, Mary Lyon School will be recognizing these seven
18 individuals for their service to the school at its 100th
19 anniversary celebration in May 2025; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
21 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
22 we recognize Jose Quiles, Sandy Blake, Judge Susan Christine
23 O'Meara Getzendanner, Eloise Kelly, Matthew Morgenthau,
24 Michael Spano, Denise Spano, and Luis Coss for their

1 dedication and respective contributions to Mary Lyon School,
2 helping shape the success of its students, staff, and mission,
3 in honor of the elementary school's 100th anniversary; and be
4 it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to Mary Lyon School as an expression of our esteem
7 and respect.