

2011-J1013

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring New York State's oldest teacher, Dora Fowler upon the occasion of her retirement after many years of distinguished service to the Roxbury Central School District

WHEREAS, New York State's commitment to education is unparalleled; its history and stature are secured by the superlative caliber of its educational professionals and the students they inspire; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of those outstanding educational leaders, whose dedication and achievements have been instrumental in developing character and academic excellence in the young people of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor New York State's oldest teacher, Dora Fowler upon the occasion of her retirement after many years of distinguished service to the Roxbury Central School District; and

WHEREAS, Educators like Dora Fowler provide a tremendous service to the future of our State and Nation, inspiring generations of young people in their educational journeys and ensuring their success in their future years; and

WHEREAS, At the remarkable age of 91, Dora Fowler has been teaching at Roxbury Central School since 1950 and subsequently has been recognized as the oldest teacher in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Born in 1919, at Wells Bridge outside of Oneonta, Dora Fowler met and married her first husband Lloyd Proctor; together the couple had two children, Cynthia and Lloyd, and moved to the Albany area before relocating to Grand Gorge, New York; and

WHEREAS, Upon the sudden passing of her husband, Dora Fowler was left to care for her two young children, not yet in school; with her options limited, she decided she would pursue a degree in teaching; and

WHEREAS, Working her way through college by taking odd jobs, Dora Fowler eventually received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from State University New York College at Oneonta; and

WHEREAS, As a teacher, Dora Fowler knew she found her calling; over the past six decades she has taught fifth grade, ninth grade, high school science, English, special needs and writing; and

WHEREAS, Today, Dora Fowler still resides in the house in Grand Gorge where she and her second husband of 40 years, the late Reginald Fowler, lived; and

WHEREAS, A proud grandmother of five grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren, this remarkable senior has no plans of slowing down; upon her retirement, she hopes to teach adults who have never learned to read, as well as volunteer her time tutoring students at the Grand Gorge United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Dora Fowler has clearly had an enduring impact on the youth of the Roxbury Central School District, as well as on the community-at-large, and accordingly merits recognition and applause for over 60 years of impressive dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those individuals who work to support our proud tradition of public education by providing their skills and talents to our schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Dora Fowler upon the occasion of her retirement as a teacher of the Roxbury Central School District, and for her significant contrib-

utions to education in New York State; and to wish her continued success in all of her future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dora Fowler, Grand Gorge, New York.