

House Resolution No. 3607

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives feel it is altogether fitting and proper to pause from time to time to recognize individuals and organizations that have contributed to the welfare of this great state and its citizens, particularly its educational institutions; and

Whereas, the members now pause to recognize Valley Park Middle School, which has been selected as a 2008 Missouri School of Character by the CHARACTERplus organization of the Cooperating School Districts of St. Louis, Missouri; and

Whereas, Valley Park Middle School will receive its 2008 Missouri School of Character award during the 14th Annual Character Education Conference, which will be held between July 16 and July 18, 2008, in downtown St. Louis; and

Whereas, Valley Park Middle School, in the Valley Park School District, has students who are adept at class-meeting conversations that set the outcomes for a unit, review math facts, increase fluency in Spanish, and explore the character strengths in Fred Sarkis' autobiography, Yes Pa; and

Whereas, the students resonate with twelve core ethical values, develop strengths with the Boys Town Social Skills model, and extend it to the playing field, honoring their own and opposing athletes for sportsmanship; and

Whereas, the students voice their opinions and discuss issues in "Breakfast Club" sessions with the principal, reflect on the 11 Principles of Character Education from their own experience, and define service learning as they adopt a troop in Iraq, team with a local hospice, support the Wolf Sanctuary, and help the fire department monthly; and

Whereas, the school partners with a local judge to run the Truancy and Academic Assist Group for students who may "fall through the cracks"; Weekly Hawk Time activities focus on character development activities; and an eMints program, a technology-based program designed for self-discovery, encourages questioning; and

Whereas, Valley Park Middle School is especially proud that their Bully Awareness Network ensures that little or no bullying occurs at the school:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join to extend our most sincere congratulations to Principal Dr. Tad Savage, the students, administration, faculty, and staff of Valley Park Middle School on the illustrious occasion of being named a 2008 Missouri School of Character by the CHARACTERplus organization ; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Valley Park Middle School.

Offered by _____
 Representative Dwight Scharnhorst
 District No. 93

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 3607, adopted July 11, 2008.

 Rod Jetton, Speaker