

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 35

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN

A RESOLUTION

To commend West Monroe High School upon being named a Law Signature School by the Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend West Monroe High School upon being named a Law Signature School by the Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education; and

WHEREAS, a Law Signature School is defined as a comprehensive program offering multiple elective and non-elective courses at each grade level in a sequential manner, concentrating on aspects of the law and legal processes for students in grades nine through twelve; and

WHEREAS, a Law Signature School is typically created by school district administrations to offer students the unique enrichment that a concentration of law-related education courses and experiences can provide; and

WHEREAS, a Law Signature School has a two- and four-year-college preparatory program that includes extracurricular activities such as mock trials and simulated congressional hearings, community service, and participation in local Teen Court programs and education field trips; and

WHEREAS, a Law Signature School must provide course offerings that allow students to complete a minimum of four semesters of law signature electives and must require specific hours of community service dedicated to Teen Court or other law-related public assisted agencies; and

WHEREAS, a Law Signature School enlists law-related education professionals from the community as human resources for in-class and out-of-class instruction; and

WHEREAS, a Law Signature School articulates with local colleges and law schools and is designed specifically to strengthen the confidence level, college preparatory skills, and positive attitude necessary for successful movement into the world of work, college, and effective active citizenship; and

WHEREAS, the goals of a Law Signature School are to cultivate certain attitudes, beliefs, and values, including a commitment to constitutional democracy, a dedication to the ideal of justice in society, a responsibility to be informed, active participation in civic life, respect for the fundamental dignity and rights of humans, and an appreciation for legitimately resolving societal conflicts and differences; and

WHEREAS, a Law Signature School also strives to promote the understanding of the law to the extent that students are able to take legal studies and cases, relate them to current events, and combine them with law concepts, job readiness, and college preparatory skills; and

WHEREAS, a Law Signature School offers a means for young men and women to explore career options in the field of law and provides structured opportunities for students to use their skills to serve the local community; and

WHEREAS, a Law Signature School promotes written and verbal communication skill development with an objective to increase students' effectiveness in expressing ideas accurately and creatively; and

WHEREAS, a Law Signature School encourages teachers to engage in teaching strategies that enable students to identify fundamental values in conflict and emphasize the higher-level thinking skills required for students to grapple successfully with controversial issues; and

WHEREAS, West Monroe High School merits a special measure of commendation for meeting the established criteria in curriculum to be certified as a Law Signature School and for displaying excellence in the delivery of civics and law-related instruction.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend West Monroe High School upon being named a Law Signature School by the Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the tremendous honor and pride that its faculty, staff, and students bring to the city of West Monroe and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the principal of West Monroe High School.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES