

**No. R-184. House concurrent resolution congratulating Mike Friel on being named the 2009 Vermont Elementary School Principal of the Year.**

(H.C.R.130)

Offered by: Representatives Burke of Brattleboro, Edwards of Brattleboro, Milkey of Brattleboro, Deen of Westminster, Mrowicki of Putney and O'Donnell of Vernon

Whereas, principals serve an important role as the leaders of their schools and must work constructively with teachers and students to form a successful educational enterprise, and

Whereas, elementary school principals can profoundly impact a young child's long-term perspective on the learning experience, and

Whereas, Mike Friel has spent his professional career in public education working in the Windham Southeast Supervisory Union originally as a teacher, having taught at the Putney Central School and the Winhall School, and

Whereas, from the classroom he moved on to the principal's office, first for six years at the Putney Central School, then for a dozen years at the Guilford Central School, and for the past seven years at the Oak Grove School in Brattleboro, and

Whereas, Mike Friel has striven to develop the best possible academic environment, and

Whereas, he has participated in significant academic programs, including serving as a mentor for students training to become a school principal and traveling to China as a member of the Vermont School Leadership Project in association with the Snelling Center for Government, and

Whereas, the teachers at Oak Grove School appreciate his partnering with them in the development and implementation of their classroom activities, and

Whereas, a member of the Oak Grove faculty nominated Mike Friel for the Vermont Elementary School Principal of the Year, an award that the Vermont Principal's Association presents annually to a distinguished school administrator, and

Whereas, after reviewing all the nominations, the association selected Mike Friel as the 2009 recipient of this honor, and

Whereas, not surprisingly, he credits his entire school community with the success of his tenure as principal at Oak Grove School, and

Whereas, in 2010, Mike Friel will travel to Washington, D.C, to represent Vermont and be considered for selection as the National Principal of the Year, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Mike Friel on being named the 2009 Vermont Elementary School Principal of the Year, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Mike Friel at the Oak Grove School in Brattleboro.