

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-51

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

April 4, 2023

To recognize and honor Benjamin Banneker Academic High School for over 4 decades of academic excellence and increasing national acclaim.

WHEREAS, Benjamin Banneker Academic High School (“Banneker”), opened its doors to students in August 1981;

WHEREAS, the school, designed as a highly selective neighborhood Junior High School by founder Vincent Emory Reed, pays homage to Benjamin Banneker, an African-American scientist, almanac author, inventor, surveyor, farmer, and scholar;

WHEREAS, Banneker has a well-documented history of preparing high school scholars to be high performing and meaningful contributors in the world;

WHEREAS, they accomplish this goal by providing students with an academically engaging curricula, college preparatory program, and varied developmental experiences;

WHEREAS, Banneker became an International Baccalaureate World School in 2001;

WHEREAS, in 2022, Banneker received mentionable accolades, such as being ranked number one in the District of Columbia High Schools, number two in Washington, D.C. Metro Area High Schools, and an all-time high of 96<sup>th</sup> in National Rankings by U.S. News;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Education named Banneker as a Blue Ribbon School in 1990, 1991, 2007 and 2017;

WHEREAS, in 2017, Newsweek highlighted Banneker as ranking 13 out of the top high schools nationally in “Beating the Odds”;

WHEREAS, in August 2021, Banneker celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and was named a Gold Medal School by U.S. News;

WHEREAS, in 2022, U.S. News named Banneker the Best High School in the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS, Banneker has a long track record of setting the bar high and watching their scholars surpass highly competitive benchmarks.

**ENROLLED ORIGINAL**

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution be cited as the “Benjamin Banneker Academic High School Recognition Resolution of 2023.”

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes that Banneker cultivates the talent of brilliant scholars from all 8 wards of the District of Columbia and realizes the fruit of their work by the placement of many of their graduates in courtrooms, classrooms, science laboratories, engineering and technological spaces, medical facilities, and other highly selective professional arenas all over the world.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.