

By: Hodge

H.R. No. 986

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Bryan Adams High School in Dallas is home to the Peer
2 Assistance Leadership (PAL) team, a truly remarkable group of
3 students who have devoted their time, talents, and resources toward
4 the benefit of others, and on May 1, 2003, the Texas Commission on
5 Volunteerism and Community Service, in conjunction with the office
6 of the governor, is presenting these admirable young Texans with
7 this year's Governor's Volunteer Award, Group Category; and

8 WHEREAS, The high school juniors and seniors who comprise
9 PALs complete an average of 14,000 hours of volunteer work each year
10 in activities that benefit senior citizens, children at risk, and
11 impoverished and homeless Texans; the students have also encouraged
12 their peers to participate in community service projects, joining
13 with dozens of local agencies to host an enormously successful
14 volunteer fair that recently attracted more than 900 students and
15 teachers; and

16 WHEREAS, The PALs are known for the creativity and dedication
17 they bring to solving some of their community's most challenging
18 problems, and their efforts have been carried on by team alumni now
19 in college and in the workplace; the Care Wears program, which was
20 founded more than six years ago in response to the observations of
21 those mentoring elementary students, has provided clothing to more
22 than 3,600 children in need, and PALs have won national acclaim for
23 the Bus Stop Buddies project, which matches children with older
24 students who provide reassurance, guidance, and assistance at the

1 beginning of the school day; and

2 WHEREAS, PALs has implemented more than a dozen other
3 community service programs that directly benefit the residents of
4 the Lone Star State, providing assistance to poor families,
5 educating grade-school children about the dangers of alcohol use,
6 implementing a local Random Acts of Kindness Day, tutoring children
7 during after-school hours, and mentoring special needs students;
8 there are countless less tangible results of their works, too, for
9 many of the children who have been helped by the group in the past
10 are now proud members of the Peer Assistance Leadership team,
11 carrying the torch of generosity and compassion that has been
12 passed on to them by the volunteers of the past; and

13 WHEREAS, Exemplifying the group's motto, "Never doubt that a
14 small group of people can change the world; indeed it's the only
15 thing that ever has," the Bryan Adams High School PALs have made
16 contributions that have helped to transform the lives of thousands
17 of Texans for the better; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
19 Legislature hereby congratulate the members and advisors of the
20 Bryan Adams High School Peer Assistance Leadership team on
21 receiving the 2003 Governor's Volunteer Award, Group Category, and
22 extend to them warmest best wishes for continued success in their
23 future civic, personal, and professional endeavors; and, be it
24 further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for Bryan Adams High School as an expression of highest
27 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.