

By: Vaught

H.R. No. 2749

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas Historical Commission is honoring Lake
2 Highlands Elementary School with an official historical marker
3 commemorating its first 50 years; and

4 WHEREAS, Founded by the Richardson Independent School
5 District on October 3, 1955, the first elementary school in Lake
6 Highlands was built in sections and initially occupied a unit
7 housing five classrooms and the office of its first principal, Bill
8 Passmore; the principal's office was also used for other functions
9 and held the school's piano; at the time, the entire district had
10 only two buildings and fewer than 800 students; and

11 WHEREAS, The community strongly supported the new school, and
12 the Parent Teachers Association established a variety of programs
13 and events, including an annual carnival, to raise funds for
14 furniture, fans, encyclopedias, and other supplies; in its second
15 year, Lake Highlands Elementary doubled the size of its faculty and
16 added six new classrooms, a visual education room, and a physical
17 education room to serve almost 300 students; and

18 WHEREAS, Expanding rapidly, Lake Highlands Elementary
19 reached an enrollment of 700 students in 25 classrooms by the
20 1961-1962 school year; after peaking at about 1,000 students in the
21 1970s, enrollment began to decline as the median age in surrounding
22 neighborhoods increased, and RISD took advantage of available space
23 to institute such specialized programs as bilingual education,
24 prekindergarten, and one of its first centralized special education

1 programs; another influx of younger residents in the early 1990s
2 led the district to add extra kindergarten and first and second
3 grade classes; and

4 WHEREAS, A complete renovation in 2001-2002 transformed the
5 school, bringing a new library, computer lab, and main office
6 space; under the leadership of current principal Kim Sullivan, the
7 school's dedicated teachers have continued the proud Wildcat
8 tradition of academic rigor, and Lake Highlands Elementary was
9 named an Honor Roll Campus by the Texas Business & Education
10 Coalition for 2007 and has consistently achieved the "recognized"
11 designation from the Texas Education Agency; and

12 WHEREAS, For more than five decades, Lake Highlands
13 Elementary has provided children of the Richardson Independent
14 School District with a quality education, and the dedication of a
15 historical marker is a fitting tribute to the enduring stature of
16 this fine institution; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
18 Legislature hereby congratulate all those associated with Lake
19 Highlands Elementary School on the dedication of an official Texas
20 State Historical Marker and extend to them best wishes for
21 continued success; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for the school as an expression of high regard by the Texas
24 House of Representatives.