

By: Villalba

H.R. No. 1246

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The students, faculty, and staff of Walnut Hill
2 Elementary School in Dallas are celebrating the school's 100th
3 anniversary on April 8, 2017; and

4 WHEREAS, This venerable educational institution can trace
5 its origins back to 1916, when local farmers constructed a
6 three-room brick schoolhouse just north of Dallas on a mowed wheat
7 field; the student body eventually outgrew the schoolhouse, and a
8 new building was constructed in 1937; still in use today, the
9 structure features distinctive Spanish mission architecture,
10 including red-tile roofs and arched doorways, as well as a
11 courtyard butterfly garden with a variety of native plants; and

12 WHEREAS, Part of the Dallas Independent School District since
13 1945, Walnut Hill serves more than 350 students in early education
14 programs through fifth grade; the dedicated faculty and staff,
15 under the able guidance of principal Robert Mclaurin, lead a number
16 of significant initiatives and activities, such as Destination
17 Imagination, STEM Scouts, and a two-way dual-language immersion
18 program, which promotes bilingualism, academic achievement, and
19 positive cross-cultural attitudes by placing native English and
20 Spanish speakers in the same classroom; and

21 WHEREAS, For the 2016-2017 school year, Walnut Hill earned a
22 "met standard" rating and five academic distinction designations
23 from the Texas Education Agency; among the many other accolades
24 bestowed on the school in recent years are an A+ rating from

1 Children at Risk, a place on the PTA National President's List, a
2 National Excellence in Urban Education Award, and a Counselors
3 Reinforcing Excellence for Students in Texas Award; and

4 WHEREAS, Ever since Walnut Hill first opened its doors, its
5 faculty and staff have worked tirelessly to provide its students
6 the best educational opportunities possible, and in so doing, they
7 have equipped multiple generations of Texans with the knowledge and
8 skills necessary to build a brighter future; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
10 Legislature hereby commemorate the 100th anniversary of Walnut Hill
11 Elementary School and extend to all those in attendance sincere
12 best wishes for a meaningful and memorable event; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for the school as an expression of high regard by the Texas
15 House of Representatives.