

WHEREAS: Castle is a fiscally sound and stable organization with a long-serving board drawn from Cambridge residents, educators and businesspeople and for 25 years has been a quiet, healing presence on Harvard Street, with a high success rate in returning students to productive, satisfying lives; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record congratulating the Castle School, as well as its Board of Trustees, its staff, students, families, and alumni, and its many community supporters and participants, on the occasion of its 25th year anniversary; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record thanking the Castle School for its work and mission to assist these youth through a difficult time in their lives by offering the support and tools that they need to work together with others in the spirit of family and community; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Castle School for presentation at their October 24, 2003 25th Anniversary celebration on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council October 20, 2003.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



City of Cambridge

R-121.

IN CITY COUNCIL

October 20, 2003

VICE MAYOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR MURPHY
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR SIMMONS
MAYOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: The Castle School, founded in 1978 at 298 Harvard Street, is a small, community-based residential and day school for adolescents ages 13 to 17 who have emotional and behavioral problems; and

WHEREAS: Designed for students who need help beyond what their home communities can provide, it offers a full-time school, a therapeutic living experience, an array of clinical services, and exposure to positive lifestyle choices; and

WHEREAS: The secondary-level school program at Castle is both special education-approved and diploma-granting, with a full academic program that is taught year-round by a team of certified special education teachers; and

WHEREAS: The key to Castle's 25 years of success is an approach called "milieu therapy," where students can practice the skills they need for the outside world through a structure of clear expectations, a system for deciding consequences, opportunities for success and status, and rituals to give recognition for progress; and

WHEREAS: One of the most significant parts of the program is the experience of living and working together with others, where Castle students help to run a household, mastering the skills of daily living through cooking, shopping, taking pride in their surroundings, and developing good study and work habits; and

WHEREAS: Community involvement is a vital part of the therapy and Castle students volunteer 50 hours in our community before they can earn the graduation level "control," earning students the opportunity to take classes for a half day at Cambridge Rindge and Latin, and if they volunteer 100 hours they get school credit; and

WHEREAS: Parents are considered part of the treatment team for their children, Castle welcomes their involvement and expects them to join in designing and supporting the treatment plan; and

R1284

RESOLUTION #121

Congratulating the Castle School, its Board of Trustees, staff, students, families and alumni and its many community supporters and participants on the occasion of its 25th Anniversary and thank the school for its work and mission to assist youth with emotional and behavioral problems.

Vice Mayor Davis and entire membership

In City Council October 20, 2003

ORDER ADOPTED