

2017 First Extraordinary Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 8

BY SENATOR WALSWORTH

COMMENDATIONS. Commends and congratulates Crosley Elementary School on its 100th year celebration.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and congratulate Crosley Elementary School on its 100th year celebration.

3 WHEREAS, at the turn of the twentieth century families from neighboring states
4 homesteaded the land west of the Ouachita River, in the western half of the parish of
5 Ouachita and "one-room schoolhouses" sprang up around the parish; and

6 WHEREAS, in 1915, a tax referendum was passed to build a permanent school to
7 begin to consolidate the schools that had been established twenty years prior in 1896; and

8 WHEREAS, some land was donated by Mrs. Stella Crosley Eby and Mrs. Martha
9 Crosley Austin, two sisters who were heirs to the Crosley estate for the sole purpose of
10 building the first permanent school in West Monroe; and

11 WHEREAS, in 1916, the school was built in the middle of what had once been a
12 cotton field just west of the original town of Trenton, and the school was named West
13 Monroe Grammar School and offered grades first through sixth; and

14 WHEREAS, the students came to school via wagon when they were not needed to
15 work on the homestead, often bringing their lunches in old syrup pails; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1921, the first school bus was put into service, and operated by Mr.
17 Tom Hicks, who would pick up students at Lenwil School and bring them to West Monroe
18 Grammar School to attend classes, and later seventh and eighth grade classes were added

1 because there was a need because of a rise in the number of students due to the Brown Paper
2 Mill which is now Graphic Packaging; and

3 WHEREAS, in 1929, a new wing was added with twelve additional classrooms, an
4 auditorium, and a cafeteria, and the name of the school was changed to Crosley Grammar
5 School, due to a petition brought up by Mrs. Eby and Mrs. Austin who had donated the
6 original plot of land to name the school after their late father; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1930 through the early 1940s, much like today's students who fall
8 into poverty, Crosley (because it now had a cafeteria serving meals) served as a
9 much-needed supplier of meals to students during the Great Depression; and

10 WHEREAS, in the 1940s during World War II, gas rationing became a major issue
11 in getting students to and from school, as the population of the school continued to grow, and
12 more elementary schools were built and the school became much more known for its seventh
13 and eighth grade classes it offered; and

14 WHEREAS, in the 1950s and the 1960s the school became more competitive in
15 extracurricular activities, with a winning football team, basketball for both boys and girls,
16 chorus, band, and numerous clubs; West Monroe High School opened in 1954, making the
17 west half of the parish a true contender in rivalries with schools on the east side of the
18 Ouachita River; and Crosley celebrated its 50th anniversary, and two junior high schools
19 were opened; and

20 WHEREAS, in the 1971, a major fire caused most of the original structure to be
21 demolished, and with the census of the school greatly decreased the end of the decade saw
22 the school changed to a pre-K and kindergarten center, which remains today; and

23 WHEREAS, Crosley continues to serve schools all across the western half of the
24 parish that do not presently have pre-K and kindergarten programs; and

25 WHEREAS, with its long and proud history and rich tradition, the Crosley school
26 continues to maintain its high standards making it one of the most successful and respected
27 pre-K and kindergarten programs around.

28 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
29 does hereby commend and congratulate Crosley Elementary School on its 100th year
30 celebration.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
2 Principal Tracey Flaherty.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Tammy Crain Waldrop.

DIGEST

SR 8 Original 2017 First Extraordinary Session Walsworth

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