consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 through 2011:

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the Republican budget resolution. The Republican's 2007 budget—and the signing of tax cuts for millionaires today—reflects priorities that are not in line with what our country stands for or the values in which most Americans believe. In keeping with an unfortunate tradition, the Republicans have once again put tax cuts for the wealthy ahead of national security, investing in our economic competitiveness, and meeting the needs of seniors, families, and students. This budget puts K Street ahead of the needs of Main Street.

The Republicans claim that this budget will decrease the massive Bush-era deficit. However, even with all the cruel cuts they make to medical research, health care, and nutrition assistance, their tax cuts add another $1.1 trillion to the deficit. Is that responsible?

The Republicans claim to have our country's best interests in mind. Yet, they slash funding for education and job training by $4.6 billion. Is that in our best interest?

The Republicans allege that their fiscal policies spark economic growth and prosperity. In reality, income is dropping, poverty has increased over the last several years, and 7.1 million Americans remain unemployed. Is that growth and prosperity?

What is responsible is funding vocational education to train our future workers, as the Democratic alternative to this budget would do. It is in our country's best interest to fund port security and homeland security. The Democratic budget recognizes that by providing $6.5 billion more than Republican budget does for homeland and port security. What would spur economic growth is funding initiatives like the Community Development Block Grants program, not cutting it by $736 million as the Republicans do. That money would help revitalize our dilapidated neighborhoods.

As I have said time and time again, budgets reflect what we value and what is important to us as a country. I value senior citizens—and that is why I cannot support a Republican budget that cuts their housing assistance by 26 percent. I believe it is important to prepare for our future so I cannot support a plan that cuts 42 education programs. I support our troops and refuse to support any budget that would cut veterans' health care by $8.6 billion even as new veterans, many severely wounded, are returning home every day. But that's what the Republican budget does.

I urge my colleagues to vote with our common American values and dreams in mind and support the Democratic and Congressional Black Caucus budgets and oppose the Republican budget that sells out the needs of the majority of Americans to make room for tax cuts for millionaires and K Street interests.

A TRIBUTE TO THE EAST NEW YORK FAMILY ACADEMY GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the East New York Family Academy Girls' Varsity Basketball Team. They are champions of the 2006 Girls Varsity Division VIII–B of the Public School Athletic League of New York City. Under the direction of Head Coach Earl S. Mitchell, Assistant Coach Eddie Barron, and Managers Rayon Clarke, Shakeema Mattocks and Bukky Odubanjo; the 2006 ''Lady Eagles'' excelled to an undefeated regular season record of 18 wins and no losses, while losing only one out of five games during the playoff season. Additionally, the East New York Family Academy Lady Eagles currently holds a record of two consecutive undefeated regular season.

I want to especially recognize the work of Athletic Director, John Cortese; and Principal Sheila Richards, who have worked hard to infuse excellence, respect and accountability not only in athletic programs, but in academic departments as well. At East New York Family Academy, it is truly a family affair. Coaches Mitchell and Barron have received a tremendous amount of inspiration from Tony Yard, the Head Coach of the Boys' Varsity Basketball Team and former member of the Panamanian Olympic Team, and from Donald Vanteerpool, the Head Coach of the Boys' Junior Varsity Basketball Team. Coach Mitchell is deeply appreciative of these coaches for teaching his team to respect the fundamentals of the game and for always being there when needed.

Although athletics are important, academics have not taken a backseat. In an era when sports achievements have sometimes replaced excellence in English, math, science and other academic areas, the coaches have demanded a high level of academic performance from team members. As an example, two players rank in the Top 10 of their senior class and four members of the starting five have received college acceptance offers.

Long after the last shot has been taken and the last ball dribbled, the members of the 2006 ''Lady Eagles'': Naledi Anderson, Alana Arthurs, Veldina Chaunce, Karanja Craigg, Tiffan Dugue', Tabrese Harris, Ayana James, Shada Jordon, Dalkeitha Layne, Shamika Mcintosh, Krista Mitchell, Tashanya Morris, and Tara Powell will benefit from the leadership, love and guidance given to them by their coaches, teachers and administrators at East New York Family Academy.

I am certain that in the days to come, the members of the 2006 ''Lady Eagles'' will build upon their experiences in basketball and their days at the East New York Family Academy and there will be more achievements to come.

Mr. Speaker, in this spirit, I believe that the accomplishments of the 2006 ''Lady Eagles,'' and the work of their coaches, teachers and administrators, are truly worthy of our recognition here today.

TRIBUTE TO ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL OF THE SACRED HEART

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Joseph's School of the Sacred Heart, on the occasion of the celebration of its centennial on May 20, 2006.

Emilie Blain Donohoe, an alumna of Sacred Heart in St. Louis, strongly believed in the educational mission of the Religious of the Sacred Heart. In 1904, she made an offer to them to fund a new school if they would agree to run it. In 1906, St. Joseph's School in Atherton, California opened its doors to 74 students. Then and now the school is guided by the spirit of the foundress of the Religious of the Sacred Heart, St. Madeleine Sophie Barat, who said, ''Let us respect childhood; let us honor the soul of that small creature of God.'' It was her vision of teaching children of all social levels that inspired Emilie Blain Donohoe to fund a tuition-free school.

One hundred years later, St. Joseph's School of the Sacred Heart is considered the ''gold standard'' in K through 8 education. It is led by capable leaders and a faculty headed by Cee Salberg, Principal of the Preschool and Kindergarten, and Karen Eshoo, Principal of grades 1 through 8. Karen is my daughter and a graduate of St. Joseph's (Class of 1983) and Sacred Heart Preparatory (Class of 1987) and as such; exemplifies the best of a Sacred Heart education. The enrollment today is 520 children from Preschool through 8th grade. St. Joseph's has undergone many changes in 100 years but its mission remains the same: the development of the whole child spiritually, intellectually, emotionally and physically.

A St. Joseph's education represents the finest in academics . . . serious in principles, and rich in the spirit of life and love. The five Goals of the Sacred Heart Network inform everything that is done at St. Joseph's. They guide the community in a genuinely integrated approach to learning which is spiritually nurturing, academically challenging, and produces students who are committed to social justice in a spirit of Christian community. St. Joseph's students are continually challenged to support each other, while at the same time achieving their own personal goals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring an extraordinary school, St. Joseph's of the Sacred Heart, as it celebrates one hundred years of educating our children. I pay tribute to the Religious of the Sacred Heart for their inspired work of educating generations of children and my congratulations to the entire Sacred Heart community of students, teachers, staff, alumni, parents and donors who have all helped to shape responsible citizens of our country. May the next century be marked by the excellence and achievements of the first 100 years at St. Joseph's School of the Sacred Heart.