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Recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education is based on a school either being measured as an "Exemplary High Performing School"—where schools are among the State's highest scorers in English and mathematics—or as an "Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing School"—where schools, with at least 40 percent of their student body coming from disadvantaged backgrounds, have reduced the achievement gap in English and mathematics within the last 5 years. Signature School has set the bar high in the area of improved proficiency in both English and Mathematics.

Consistently ranked in the top 100 high schools in the Nation since 2006, Signature School is a unique and innovative institution where students are given the opportunity to play a role in setting their academic goals. This independence instills in the students a sense of motivation and self-belief, two components that have helped narrow the achievement gap and increased English and mathematics scores.

I would like to acknowledge principal Jean S. Hitchcock of Signature School, the entire staff, and the student body. It undoubtedly took hard work and dedication to achieve this prestigious award.

On behalf of the citizens of Indiana, I congratulate Signature School, and I wish them continued success in the future.

RECOGNIZING EAST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today, I applaud East Elementary of the Jay School Corporation, Portland, IN, for being recognized as a 2014 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

Established in 1982, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has recognized over 7,000 public and nonpublic schools that demonstrate a vision of educational excellence for all students, regardless of their social or economic background. Since its inception, this program has offered the opportunity for schools in every State to gain recognition for educational accomplishments in closing any achievement gaps among student groups.

Recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education is based on a school being identified as "Exemplary High Performing"—schools that are ranked in the top 15 percent nationally in English and mathematics, measured by each State's assessment—or as "Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing"—where schools with at least 40 percent of their student body coming from disadvantaged backgrounds are reducing the achievement gap in English and mathematics. East Elementary School has made great strides in these areas.

East Elementary School inspires its students by fostering a positive environment both at school and in the community. Staff and students are committed to working toward combining knowledge with social and emotional support and by doing so lift up a student body that comes from a predominantly economically challenging background. East Elementary School has consistently achieved both an A-rating and a Four Star designation from the Indiana Department of Education. The hard work and creativity of this school has helped to strengthen the Portland community and the future of Indiana.

I would like to recognize principal Andy Schemenaur, the entire staff, and the student body. It undoubtedly took hard work and dedication to achieve this prestigious award.

On behalf of the citizens of Indiana, I congratulate the East Elementary of the Jay School Corporation of Portland, and I wish them continued success in the future.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CONGRATULATING THE SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2014 World Series champions, the San Francisco Giants. By defeating the Kansas City Royals in a fiercely contested and exhilarating World Series, the Giants became the second team in the storied history of the National League to win three World Series in a five-season span.

Led by manager Bruce Bochy and general manager Brian Sabean, this outstanding roster of all-stars, unflappable veterans, and exciting young talent showed great resolve, determination, and character as they battled a tough National League Western Division to emerge with 88 wins and a spot in the playoffs.

The Giants began their title march by shutting out the Pittsburgh Pirates 8-to-0 in the one-game National League Wildcard game. In the National League Division Series, the Giants showed their championship pedigree by winning several tightly contested games against the Washington Nationals that included a thrilling 18-inning marathon, the longest in postseason history. In the National League Championship Series, the Giants captured the pennant by defeating the St. Louis Cardinals, four games to one.

Driven by the historic performance of pitcher Madison Bumgarner, World Series MVP, and with contributions from every player on the roster, the Giants triumphed over the Kansas City Royals in a hard-fought, seven-game series. This team battled to win a game seven that came down to the last pitch of the ninth inning when third baseman Pablo Sandoval caught the final out—making the Giants the first team in 35 years to win game seven on the road.

With a combination of excellent pitching, great defense and clutch hitting, the Giants are bringing the World Series trophy back to China Basin for the third time in five seasons. They have evolved from the 2010 championship team that was fondly described as "a band of misfits" to a team that has etched themselves into baseball history. With this eighth World Series title—their third in five seasons—the San Francisco Giants have taken their rightful place among the nation's greatest franchises and chief executive officer Larry Baer and the entire Giants organization should be very proud.

I also want to congratulate the loyal San Francisco Giants fans, who have supported their team through good years and bad, and from the windy Candlestick Park to the picturesque AT&T Park. Whether it is nearly 42,000 fans turning the stadium into a sea of orange on an "Orange Friday" or wearing panda hats for Pablo Sandoval or bringing funny Hunter Pence signs, Giants fans have created an electric atmosphere at AT&T Park and provided its team with one of the most formidable home park advantages in all of baseball.

As the San Francisco Giants and their fans celebrate the 2014 championship campaign, I congratulate them on their unforgettable season and look forward to their continued success in 2015 and beyond.●

TRIBUTE TO ALAN DERSHOWITZ

• Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to honor a great teacher today.

His name is Alan Dershowitz. For half a century he was a professor at the Harvard Law School. He retired in December of 2013.

From all those students who were so fortunate to learn from him, including myself, let us say thank you.

Professor Dershowitz joined Harvard Law in 1964—at the tender age of 25—and during his time there, he trained more than 10,000 students in more than 100 semesters to be critical thinkers, lawyers, judges, and leaders.

Aside from being an incredible teacher, he is known as many things: advocate, columnist, novelist, and intellectual.

He is a passionate liberal, and yet he pressed all his students—conservative and liberal alike—to make the very best arguments they could, based on logic, reason, and precedent.

Like Professor Kingsbury in "The Paper Chase," he didn't suffer fools. If you couldn't back up your position in his class, if you emoted rather than reasoned, you were in trouble.

He and I became friends, ironically, because we disagreed so much. In class, he would offer withering critiques of opinions authored by conservative Justices, Scalia and Thomas especially, and I was often moved to disagree. Heated arguments followed, which Professor Dershowitz always seemed to relish.

I am grateful for his patience and indulgence. As with countless law students before and after, Professor Dershowitz made me a much better lawyer.

He didn't just teach; he also practiced, in trial courts and the Supreme Court, taking on "impossible" cases and winning one after another. Truly, it was a privilege to learn from someone practicing at the very top of his field.

Although a man of the left, he did not shy away from disagreeing with his liberal colleagues when principle compelled it. A passionate advocate for free speech, he fearlessly took on the political correctness of campus speech codes. No conformist, he.

And there has been no fiercer advocate for Israel. His passion, his persuasiveness, his willingness to take on all comers, has made him an incomparable voice for the Jewish State.

Professor Dershowitz is an intellectual powerhouse who could have done anything in his life, and he made the deliberate decision to teach. He chose to share his brilliance and pass it on. He chose to invest in the future of others instead of only himself.

I am so grateful that I could be among the thousands of students Professor Dershowitz taught. He has made and continues to make a real difference.

Courage and principle are rare today. Professor Dershowitz has them both.●

CONGRATULATING MIKE CARRIGAN

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate Councilman Mike Carrigan, of Sparks, on his retirement. After serving as a member of the Sparks City Council for 15 years, Councilman Carrigan retired on November 10th, 2014. It gives me great pleasure to congratulate him on his retirement after many years of hard work and dedication to the City of Sparks and the Silver State.

Councilman Carrigan stands as a shining example of someone who has devoted their life to serving their country and community. Graduating from the Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD, he went on to serve in the U.S. Navy for 20 years as a naval aviator around the world. I extend my deepest gratitude to Councilman Carrigan for his courageous contributions to the United States of America and to freedom-loving nations around the world. His service to his country and his bravery and dedication earn him a place among the outstanding men and women who have valiantly defended our Nation. I am both humbled and honored by Councilman Carrigan's service to the community and am proud to call him a fellow Nevadan.

After his many years of service, Councilman Carrigan moved to Nevada in the early 1990s with his wife Cora and their two daughters Ashley and Molly. He attended the University of

Nevada, Reno and earned his master's degree in journalism and soon began work as a newspaperman in Fallon. With his experience and expertise, Councilman Carrigan began teaching part-time in the Reynolds School of Journalism at his alma mater, where he taught journalism courses for several years. His desire to make positive changes in his community soon led to his first run and subsequent win in office on Sparks' City Council.

Upon being elected to the Sparks City Council in 1999, he has worked on numerous projects for the City of Sparks and has always strived to ensure that Sparks stayed family-oriented. Councilman Carrigan has remained committed to being a voice for the people of Sparks and has been a constant advocate for initiatives that meet the needs of Sparks' families. Among his many accomplishments, one of his proudest was the construction of Golden Eagle Regional Park in his ward, which was built without the use of taxpayer funds.

I am grateful for his dedication and commitment to the people of Sparks and to the State of Nevada. He exemplifies the highest standards of leadership and community service and should be proud of his long and meaningful career. Today, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Councilman Carrigan on his retirement, and I offer my deepest appreciation for all that he has done to make Nevada an even better place. I offer my best wishes for many successful and fulfilling years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO DEE LIKES

● Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, in a State where cattle outnumber people, the Kansas livestock industry is one of the leading economic and cultural drivers of our State. Across the Midwest, ranchers and their families work hard every day to provide protein for a growing and hungry world, often without the appreciation or recognition they deserve.

I rise today to offer my sincere congratulations and thanks to a trusted leader and friend. Thomas "Dee" Likes has served for the last 31 years as the chief executive officer and executive vice president of the Kansas Livestock Association. Under his leadership, the 5,500-member trade association has grown into one of the most influential and respected agricultural organizations in Kansas and across the nation.

Dee Likes has made a distinguished impact on the livestock industry. As the longest tenured State affiliate organization CEO in the history of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, he helped lead the industry through the 1996 merger between the National Cattlemen's Association and the Beef Industry Council of the National Live Stock and Meat Board.

In addition to his service as CEO of the Kansas Livestock Association, Dee Likes has been a true partner in gov-

ernment. He has successfully represented the livestock industry in front of Congress and has served two terms as president of the Kansas Agricultural Alliance, a coalition that represents over 20 Kansas agricultural associations before the Kansas Legislature.

I am grateful to Dee for his friendship, his advice, and his counsel over the years. Kansas agriculture has been fortunate to have Dee's commitment and dedication. I hope he and his wife Terry will enjoy their next chapter in life.●

TRIBUTE TO STEVE BACCUS

● Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, agriculture is one of the leading economic and cultural drivers in Kansas. Across our State, farmers and ranchers work hard every day to feed a growing world, often without the appreciation or recognition they deserve.

I rise today to offer my sincere congratulations and thanks to a special Kansas farmer and friend. Steve Baccus is a native Kansan, a veteran, a husband, a father of five, and a grandfather whose fourth-generation family farm in Ottawa County continues to produce wheat, corn, soybeans, and occasionally sunflowers and sorghum.

For the past 17 years, Steve has served on the board of directors for Kansas Farm Bureau, including the last 12 as its president. Kansas Farm Bureau is our State's largest general farm organization, with nearly 105,000 members. Under his leadership the organization has successfully influenced State and national agriculture policy, promoted rural values, and worked to show an increasingly urban populace how food is truly produced.

In addition to his service as president of the Kansas Farm Bureau, Steve Baccus has been a true partner in government. He has led trade missions, presented testimony before Congress and State legislative committees, and told the complex story of agriculture for much of his adult life.

Steve Baccus embodies many traits we can all admire: a deep love for the great State of Kansas, gratitude for the many hard-working families who provide the food, fuel, and fiber Americans rely on, and the respect of his peers across the Nation.

I personally am grateful for Steve's many years of wise counsel to me and for his service to Kansas and agriculture. I wish him and his wife Patricia all the best in their next chapter.●

TREATY OF 1864 ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, 150 years ago, on October 14, 1864, the Federal Government signed a treaty with the Klamath, Modoc, and Yahooskin Indian Tribes in the Klamath Basin establishing these tribes collectively as "The Klamath Tribes" and designating the Klamath Reservation in Southern Oregon.

I would like to recognize this historic event and acknowledge the great contributions made by the Klamath Tribes