



# Allegheny County Council

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## Legislation Text

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Title...

Proclamation congratulating Pittsburgh Whittier K-5 School for earning a 2013-2014 Students and Teachers Achieving Results (STAR) award.

Body...

WHEREAS, in September 2011, the Pittsburgh Public School District (PPS) launched Students and Teachers Achieving Results (STAR), a school-level award to recognize all Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers (PFT), regardless of grade or subject area, including special education teachers and early childhood program teachers, making extraordinary gains in student achievement; and

WHEREAS, STAR acknowledges the hard work staff school teams do every day and emphasizes the importance of working together to help every student succeed, STAR is based on student growth, taking into account where students are coming from, including their prior levels of success; and

WHEREAS, to determine STAR status, the annual growth in PPS student achievement will be compared to the growth of schools in Pennsylvania, since PPS schools are compared to schools across the state, every school in PPS could be a winner if their student growth places them in the top 15% of schools in the state and students at STAR schools had significantly more academic growth than the state average; and

WHEREAS, the program shows appreciation, encourages teamwork and calls attention to successes that could help other schools, more than 500 staff members will receive bonuses, the bonuses total about \$2.1 million, 80 percent of which is paid by a federal Teacher Incentive Fund grant; and

WHEREAS, serving K-5 students, the Pittsburgh Whittier School on Mount Washington has been recognized for great growth in student achievement as averaged over the past two years and has earned the distinct pleasure of being named a STAR school for 2013-2014;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council does hereby congratulate Pittsburgh Whittier K-5 for earning a STAR award, and we commend the staff for their school-based collaboration and extraordinary contributions to student achievement.