



City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Text File

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Committee: City Council

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WHEREAS, the **Kizuna Project** is a Youth Exchange Project between the United States and Japan and is sponsored by the Japanese government to support Japan's recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake. **Kizuna**, which translates to "bond", encourages a youth exchange between Japan and the United States and is administered by the Laurasian Institution and will enable 1000 American high school students to visit the area devastated by the earthquake and tsunami and, in return, 1000 Japanese high school students and 200 Japanese college students will visit the United States; and,

WHEREAS, in June 2012, Pittsburgh Allderdice High School Japanese Program students were selected to be part of this youth exchange project and 23 Allderdice students traveled to Japan for two weeks where they did volunteer work and learned firsthand about the earthquake and tsunami from fisherman, firefighters, teacher and students in Ibaraki Prefecture; and,

WHEREAS, in return, Japanese students from Hitachi city, Ibaraki, are visiting Allderdice High School this week to share their stories and talk about the reconstruction efforts at a free community forum to be held on Thursday, November 8, 2012; and,

WHEREAS, this Pittsburgh visit by the Japanese students is part of the exchange program in which they will visit both East and West coasts of the US to give presentations on the current situation of disaster affected areas and promote understanding of Japan's recovery from this unprecedented disaster; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby commend and congratulate Pittsburgh Allderdice High School on its progressive, visionary and compassionate efforts to connect with the disaster affected students in Japan through the Kizuna Project and recognizes the teachers and students in the Allderdice Japanese Program for hosting the students and for presenting this compelling experience to the public; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Thursday, November 8, 2012, to be "**KIZUNA PROJECT DAY**" in the City of Pittsburgh.