

Text File

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Committee: City Council

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WHEREAS, the City of Pittsburgh supports a healthy and safe environment for children and staff in schools throughout Pittsburgh and is therefore proud to join children, parents, and educators throughout the nation in observing **National Healthy Schools Day** on Tuesday, April 30, 2013; and

WHEREAS, school-age children spend, on average, approximately 30-50 hours per week in school, and sometimes much more; and

WHEREAS, our children are more vulnerable to environmental hazards: they proportionally breathe more air, drink more fluids, and eat more food than adults. Their developing systems and behaviors contribute to their increased vulnerability; and

WHEREAS, new or renovated healthy and high performance schools designed to improve indoor air and environmental quality can also reduce energy and maintenance costs and, thus, provide a healthier and safer learning environment for all children and improve attendance, academic achievement, and well-being; and

WHEREAS, schools are the building blocks of our communities and our children represent the future of these communities. Thus, federal, state, local, and private sector entities must work together to ensure that resources are used effectively and efficiently to address environmental health and safety conditions of schools; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pittsburgh encourages policies and procedures that enhance healthy learning environments for children, and City residents Andrew Ellsworth and Jenna Cramer have begun a pilot-project, the Healthy Schools Collaboration, which seeks to provide knowledge, motivation, and resources to help schools throughout our region to become healthy and safe environments for all children.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City of Pittsburgh does hereby join in the celebration of **National Healthy Schools Day**, observed by communities throughout the country to highlight the need for improved attention and protection of children's environmental health at school; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Tuesday, April 30, 2013 to be **Healthy Schools Day** in the City of Pittsburgh.