

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Chief Clerk
Room 402, City Hall
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 230280)

RESOLUTION

Honoring and congratulating the Champions of the Week, the students of Lankenau High School, for their valuable work studying the environmental impact of mussels and working to increase the mussel population in the Schuylkill River.

WHEREAS, Lankenau is Philadelphia's Environmental Science Magnet School; and

WHEREAS, Students from Matthew VanKouwenberg and Cynthia Geesey's classes, and the schools environmentalist club, around 150 students took to the Schuylkill River to study the bivalves; and

WHEREAS, Students study and work with eastern pond mussels and alewife floaters, two freshwater mussels native to the Philadelphia region; and

WHEREAS, Freshwater purification using mollusks has seen recent success in other Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern cities; and

WHEREAS, The program, in association with the Philadelphia Water Department, has provided Lankenau students with valuable out-of-school time and helped them bolster their problem-solving, research, and data-collection skills; and

WHEREAS, In addition to studying mussels' water purification abilities, students are also investigating how the bivalves' growth and reproduction are affected by rising river temperatures; and

WHEREAS, Teachers and club leadership are pursuing a published journal article based on the Lankenau students' work; and

WHEREAS, One Water Department official called the students' work "cutting edge," as there is currently very little research on rising river temperatures' impact on freshwater mollusks; now, therefore, be it

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 230280 continued

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That we hereby congratulate and honor the Champions of the Week, the students of Lankenau High School, for their valuable work studying the environmental impact of mussels and working to increase the mussel population in the Schuylkill River.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an engrossed copy be presented to Lankenau Environmental Science Magnet School, further evidencing the sincere admiration and respect of this legislative body.

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 230280 continued

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 230280 continued

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the Thirteenth day of April, 2023.

Darrell L. Clarke
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Thomas

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Thomas, Harrity, Squilla, Gilmore
Richardson, Driscoll, Vaughn, Lozada, Brooks, Bass and
Johnson