

RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING THE UNIFIED PREVENTION COALITION OF FAIRFAX COUNTY
AND ITS “PARENTS WHO HOST, LOSE THE MOST” CAMPAIGN

WHEREAS, 65 percent of underage youth say they get alcohol from family and friends, even though it is illegal in Virginia for a person under 21 years of age to consume or possess alcohol, and it is illegal for an adult to provide alcohol to a person under 21 years of age; and

WHEREAS, alcohol is the most commonly used illegal drug by Fairfax County students; and underage alcohol use is associated with traffic crashes and fatalities, other drug use, violence and gang involvement, rape, depression and suicide, and educational failure; and

WHEREAS, the 2012-2013 Fairfax County Youth Survey reported that 35 percent of high school seniors and 19 percent of tenth graders had consumed alcohol in the last 30 days, and that 18.2 percent of seniors had engaged in binge drinking in the last two weeks; and

WHEREAS, the Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County, an independent non-profit organization of over 60 collaborative partners, including school officials, county government agencies, concerned residents, students, and community groups, has been instrumental in addressing underage drinking and binge drinking, and is now in the eighth year of a campaign known as “Parents Who Host, Lose the Most: *Don’t be a party to teenage drinking*,” to educate parents and to increase awareness of and compliance with Virginia underage drinking laws; and

WHEREAS, prevention efforts, including parents talking with their teens and modeling appropriate behavior, are critical, particularly during prom and graduation season;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairfax County School Board supports the Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County and recognizes the month of May 2014 as “Parents Who Host, Lose The Most” month in Fairfax County.