

Senate Resolution 376

By: Senators Tippins of the 37th, Albers of the 56th, Thompson of the 14th and Shafer of the 48th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Big Shanty Intermediate School for being a 2015 Georgia Green Ribbon
2 School and for its great work in environmental education and sustainability; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the aim of United States Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools is to
5 inspire schools, districts, and institutions of higher education to strive for 21st century
6 excellence by highlighting exemplary practices and resources that all can employ; and

7 WHEREAS, the Green Ribbon award recognizes schools, districts, and institutions of higher
8 education that reduce environmental impact and costs; improve the health and wellness of
9 schools, students, and staff; and provide environmental education which teaches many
10 disciplines and is especially skilled at effectively incorporating STEM, civic skills, and green
11 career pathways. The combined achievement in all three of these areas serves as the basis
12 for recognition; and

13 WHEREAS, Big Shanty Intermediate School was one of two Georgia schools named a
14 Georgia Green Ribbon School for the year 2015; and

15 WHEREAS, the Big Shanty Intermediate School Green Team is a Key Team committee
16 created by the current administration to assist the school in creating green environments by
17 impact, promoting health, and ensuring a high-quality environmental and outdoor education
18 to prepare students with the 21st century skills and sustainability concepts needed in the
19 growing global economy; and

20 WHEREAS, in April, 2014, the Green Team hosted the Comcast Cares campus clean-up for
21 which the school received recognition by the City of Kennesaw for making the campus more
22 inviting and environmentally sound, and Comcast donated more than \$9,000.00 worth of
23 supplies and an additional \$12,000.00 toward school improvement; with 624 volunteers, the

24 school was able to plant trees, create gardens, maintain the existing landscape, and create
25 lasting relationships within the Kennesaw community; and

26 WHEREAS, the school has several outdoor learning centers, and its projects include a
27 shuffle board court and perimeter garden which has helped solve a water retention issue on
28 the playground; future plans include revamping the nature trail and bridge while continuing
29 to plan innovative outdoor classroom spaces; and

30 WHEREAS, Big Shanty students are being taught to become global citizens and thinkers
31 through staff actions; it is the notion that one person can and will make a difference.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
33 commend Big Shanty Intermediate School for being a 2015 Georgia Green Ribbon School
34 and recognize its commitment to inspiring and educating tomorrow's leaders and preserving
35 the natural beauty of this state.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
37 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Big Shanty
38 Intermediate School.