

**PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF
ATHENS HIGH SCHOOL 2015-2016 STUDENT CONGRESS**

WHEREAS, The **Athens High School Student Congress** is a very active and dedicated group of 55 students and two advisors, committed to giving back to their community as well as the region; and

WHEREAS, Each year the **Athens High Student Congress** puts in countless hours, as well as blood, sweat and tears to help raise money for a charity of their choice during Charity Week; and

WHEREAS, The **Athens High Student Congress** selected the **Joan Rose Foundation**, a non-profit organization that provides impoverished children in Haiti with the opportunity to succeed in life. The Foundation provides food, education, clothing, medicine, love and support to the children; and

WHEREAS, This year the **Athens High Student Congress** gave back in a way that many teens and even most adults could not do by organizing a full week of activities, including game night, "Jail-n-Bail," Teacher Dance Battle, pancake breakfast, penny wars, film festival, Parent cook-off, restaurant nights, volleyball tournament, Mr. Athens pageant, t-shirt sales, dance, pep rally and much more; and

WHEREAS, **Athens Student Congress** raised \$84,104.21 this year for the **Joan Rose Foundation**. They also raised more than \$57,000 in 2015 for *Wish Upon a Teen*; \$56,000 in 2014 for *Desert Angels*; more than \$40,800 in 2013 for *Angels of Hope*; more than \$35,000 in 2012 for *I've Got Your Back*; and \$34,000 in 2011 for *Believe in Miracles*; and

WHEREAS, The **Student Congress** generates excitement throughout the School's 1,600 students as well as within the community. Congress meetings take place prior to school starting, and after a full day of classes members stay after school to count pennies, sell shirts, run the events and then go home to complete their homework. There is not a lot of sleep for Congress members during Charity Week; and

WHEREAS, Students find out how much money they raised at the Friday Pep Assembly and then celebrate their accomplishment with a final fundraiser dance that evening;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Troy City Council extends special recognition to the **Athens High School Student Congress**, for their selfless and tireless service and dedication to so many worthwhile organizations over the years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Troy City Council and all of Troy's residents congratulate the **Athens Student Congress** for being a shining example of how to give back to the community, as well as the region and wish all of the Athens High School students continued success in all future endeavors.

Presented this 21st day of March 2016.