

Whereas, Charles L. Henry, III, served with distinction on the Oklahoma City Public Schools (OKCPS) Board of Education, representing the students, families, staff and citizens residing in District 1, from April 17, 2017, through April 9, 2021; and,

Whereas, Mr. Henry joined the Board in championing the development and approval of the OKCPS Equity policy and has consistently put great emphasis on ensuring students and families of color in the District were given resources and opportunities in the most equitable manner possible; and,

Whereas, Mr. Henry vigorously supported efforts that engaged the community and resulted in the Board voting to change the names of three District schools named after confederate generals, Adelaide Lee Elementary, Esperanza Elementary and Mary Golda Ross Middle School; and,

Whereas, Mr. Henry represented OKCPS at Oklahoma City's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade and celebration: and.

Whereas, Mr. Henry was the primary author of the Board's resolution addressing the egregious actions of white law enforcement officers that resulted in the unnecessary death of George Floyd, a black man; and,

Whereas, Mr. Henry actively supported the district's anti-discrimination policy as well as efforts to celebrate our district's diversity, along with resolutions to honor influential and diverse members of our community who have contributed to the success of OKCPS; and,

Whereas, Mr. Henry joined the Board in approving Superintendent Sean McDaniel's Pathway to Greatness, a phased process that realigned OKCPS facilities and resources with instructional needs to reinvent our district for the benefit of all students, regardless of where they live; and,

Whereas, Mr. Henry joined the Board in wholeheartedly supporting OKCPS educators as they joined other educators, students, staff and concerned citizens from around the state as they used their voices at the Capitol during the 2018 Oklahoma Teacher Walkout which resulted in a significant teacher pay raise; and,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Oklahoma City Public Schools Board of Education, take great pride in recognizing and honoring Mr. Charles Henry for his steadfast commitment to providing the highest quality education possible to the children in this school District.

Dated this 12th Day of April, 2021.

Paula Lewis, Board Chairperson

Mark Mann, Vice Chairperson & District 4 Board Member

Ruth Veales, District 5 Board Member

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Meg McElhaney, District 7 Board Nember

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