

**RESOLUTION HONORING DR. RENEE GRANT-MITCHELL,  
CHIEF SPECIALIZED SERVICES OFFICER, OFFICE OF SPECIALIZED SERVICES,  
CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS**, after thirty-seven years of faithful and dedicated service to the public school children of the City of Chicago, Dr. Renee Grant-Mitchell has retired from the Chicago Board of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Renee Grant-Mitchell attended and graduated from the Chicago Public Schools; Burnside Elementary and Harlan High School; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Renee Grant-Mitchell received a Bachelor of Arts from Bradley University, a Masters of Education from Chicago State University, and a Masters of Education and Doctorate of Education from Harvard University; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Renee Grant-Mitchell began her career as a special education teacher at Arnold Upper Grade Center in 1970 and served as a teacher of special education, general education, elementary, and high school students for fifteen years when she became an administrator; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Renee Grant-Mitchell became Assistant to the Chicago Public Schools Associate Superintendent in 1991, Director of Out of District Units in 1992, served as Intern to the General Superintendent for Atlanta Public Schools in 1995, and became Deputy Chief Specialized Services Officer in 1996; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Renee Grant-Mitchell was appointed Chief Specialized Services Officer in 2003, has managed the largest educational department in Chicago Public Schools for the last five years, and has been responsible for overseeing the provision of special education and related services for over 50,000 students with disabilities and promoting social-emotional and physical health for all students in the district; and

**WHEREAS**, during her tenure, Dr. Renee Grant-Mitchell spearheaded the development and implementation of a comprehensive school support and monitoring system for meeting compliance with Illinois State Board of Education Corrective Action Plans resulting in the resolution of findings for the first time since the inception of the Corey-H settlement agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, during her tenure, Dr. Renee Grant-Mitchell developed innovative programs that resulted in increased numbers of students with disabilities being educated in more integrated environments with greater access to all programs, resources, and services; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Renee Grant-Mitchell worked diligently to increase access to direct services for all students, including ensuring comprehensive eye examinations and prescription lenses for over 65,000 students; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Renee Grant-Mitchell has been honored with numerous recognitions, including being featured on CBS, Channel 2 - "Eye on Chicago" in February 2008 and is recognized by her staff as a dedicated mentor and visionary leader influencing the lives of her colleagues and those who have worked under her leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Renee Grant-Mitchell's dedication, commitment, and tenacity to ensure that all students have access to quality education, programs, and services has been an invaluable contribution to the district and the City of Chicago, and will be remembered always.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the President and Members of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, gathered this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June 2008, do hereby extend to Dr. Renee Grant-Mitchell our thanks for her service and offer our most sincere gratitude for her contributions to the third largest school district in the nation and to the children and families of the City of Chicago.