

December 16, 2015

**RESOLUTION HONORING JESSE H. RUIZ, VICE PRESIDENT
CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, after more than four years of distinguished service as Vice President of the Chicago Board of Education, Jesse H. Ruiz will be appointed to the Board of Commissioners of the Chicago Park District and recommended by the Honorable Mayor of Chicago, Rahm Emanuel to be their President; and

WHEREAS, Jesse H. Ruiz was appointed to serve as a Member of the Chicago Board of Education on May 27, 2011 by the Honorable Mayor of Chicago, Rahm Emanuel; and

WHEREAS, in June 2011, he was elected to the position of Vice President of the Chicago Board of Education by his fellow Board Members and since then has been re-elected to serve in that same capacity; and

WHEREAS, Jesse H. Ruiz and his fellow Board members were responsible for the governance and organizational and financial oversight of Chicago Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Jesse H. Ruiz worked towards a substantial agenda for change to address the District's significant financial challenges while continuing to ensure accountability and provide a world-class education that prepared Chicago Public School students for success in college and career; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, the Board has adopted measures to improve student health and wellness, increase student access to college preparatory programs through International Baccalaureate Programmes; Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math; Advanced Placement; Dual-Language credit programs; and student access to arts programming; and

WHEREAS, Jesse H. Ruiz also served as the Interim Chief Executive Officer from April 22, 2015 to July 26, 2015; during his tenure as Interim Chief Executive Officer, he initiated a full audit of all schools in the district to ensure that Title III funds are being utilized to provide every English Language Learner student the required educational services; and

WHEREAS, Jesse H. Ruiz has previously served on the U.S. Department of Education Equity and Excellence Commission; as Chairman of the Illinois State Board of Education and the Chicago Public Schools Desegregation Monitoring Commission; and

WHEREAS, Jesse H. Ruiz served on the Board without compensation, devoting many hours of his time to Chicago's Public schools and to the children of Chicago.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, this 16th day of December 2015, do hereby extend to Jesse H. Ruiz our gratitude for his leadership and commitment to the Chicago Board of Education and for his many contributions to the education, welfare and development of the children of Chicago and offer him our best wishes for his future endeavors.