

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CERTAIN BOARD OFFICIALS TO  
NEGOTIATE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF CHICAGO  
CONCERNING THE RECEIPT OF EMPOWERMENT ZONE FUNDS FOR  
JUAREZ COMMUNITY ACADEMY**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to and in accordance with Title XIII of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-66) (the "Act"), the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has designated Empowerment Zones for economically disadvantaged areas that are intended to be areas of concentrated economic development activity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the City of Chicago (the "Board") has the responsibility for maintaining the system of public education within the City, including, as needed, the development and construction of new schools and the rehabilitation and renovation of existing schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Benito Juarez Community Academy is located within the Pilsen/Little Village cluster in the Chicago Empowerment Zone; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development, in conjunction with the Chicago Board of Education, supports the construction, rehabilitation and renovation of Juarez Community Academy as part of a planned community development improvement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chicago Public Schools intends to acquire property currently owned by Coca Cola Inc., which is adjacent to the existing school site to expand and enhance the facility; and

**WHEREAS**, various provisions of the Act permit the use of empowerment zone funds to improve or purchase land or facilities if one or more of the following strategies from the Empowerment Zone Strategic Plan are implemented, including facilitating extended hours at school, bringing families into the school to provide comprehensive community education and other programs, cultural programming that supports social service goals, and creating recreational opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to ensure that all students receive the highest quality education and that all communities have high quality education facilities, the Board will acquire land to expand, renovate, and rehabilitate Benito Juarez Community Academy to serve the needs of the Pilsen/Little Village community and the student population. Furthermore, the Board will implement one or more of the above referenced strategies in support of these goals.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:**

1. The Law Department and the Office of School Financial Services are hereby directed and authorized to negotiate with the City, on behalf of the Board, an intergovernmental agreement under which the City agrees to pay, or to reimburse, a portion of the capital costs incurred by the Board in connection with the land acquisition and/or site preparation for Juarez Community Academy.
2. The President and Secretary of the Board are hereby authorized to execute, on behalf of the Board, any intergovernmental agreement negotiated pursuant to this Resolution.
3. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to accept, on behalf of the Board, any funds that the Board is entitled to receive pursuant to this intergovernmental agreement and is hereby directed to establish an appropriate escrow account for any funds so received in advance of the acquisition and/or site preparation of such land.
4. This resolution is effective immediately upon its adoption.