

**RESOLUTION HONORING MANUEL J. MEDINA, OFFICER
OFFICE OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, after 34 years of faithful and dedicated service, Manuel J. Medina is retiring from the Chicago Public Schools ("CPS"); and

WHEREAS, Manuel J. Medina received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Loyola University; and

WHEREAS, Manuel J. Medina began his career with the Chicago Public Schools in 1972 as an English as a Second Language teacher at the Armour Elementary School. After 8 years of providing direct services to students, Manuel J. Medina joined the district office as a resource teacher in the Department of Instructional Services and then as a coordinator and facilitator for various CPS offices and departments. In these roles, Manuel J. Medina tirelessly worked to ensure that system wide initiatives and policies reflected the needs of English language learners; and

WHEREAS, in 1995 Manuel J. Medina was appointed Administrator in Region 2 and in 1997 became Deputy Officer in the Office of Language and Cultural Education and in 2000 was named Officer of the Office of Language and Cultural Education; and

WHEREAS, as Officer, Manuel J. Medina oversaw the Transitional Bilingual Education Program which annually serves more than 57,700 English Language Learners (ELLs) enrolled in 431 programs in 285 schools. Under his leadership, the department of Language and Cultural Education implemented the English as a Second Language Goals and Standards Pre-K through 12, providing academic standards and rigor for all English Language students; and

WHEREAS, as both Deputy Officer and Officer of the Office of Language and Cultural Education, Manuel J. Medina has supported elementary and high schools in implementing World Language Programs where more than 90,000 students each year study a world language. During Manuel J. Medina's tenure, educational cultural exchange programs with China, Panama, Mexico and Turkey have been made available to Chicago Public School students and schools; and

WHEREAS, Manuel J. Medina's commitment to prepare students to communicate and participate in the world market has resulted in the Chicago Public Schools implementing the largest Chinese World Language Program in the United States and the establishment of the first Confucius Institute in a non-postsecondary school system; and

WHEREAS, Manuel J. Medina's commitment to the importance of a parent's role in the education of their children has resulted in the increase of parental involvement of parents of ELLs; and

WHEREAS, Manuel J. Medina is recognized as an advocate for English Language Learners and students learning a world language, a leader among his peers, a mentor and friend to many.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we the President and Members of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, gathered here this 20th day of December, 2006, do hereby extend to Manuel J. Medina our thanks for his service and offer our most sincere gratitude for his contributions to the school system and the children of the City of Chicago.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be made available to Mr. Manuel J. Medina.