

**RESOLUTION HONORING DARYL J. OKRZESIK,
CONTROLLER**

WHEREAS, Daryl J. Okrzesik was appointed Controller of the Chicago Public Schools in 1998 by the Chief Executive Officer, Paul Vallas and has continued in that role for the past fifteen years of his thirty years of municipal service to citizens of the City of Chicago;

WHEREAS, prior to joining the Chicago Public Schools, Daryl J. Okrzesik started civil service as an auditor for the City of Chicago Department of Revenue in 1983. He held various positions of increasing responsibility with the Audit Department before becoming the Manager of Tax Administration where he oversaw the operation of the City's Municipal Tax Division including master account audit control sections, tax discovery, and customer service. He was directly responsible for the implementation of many key tax ordinances. In 1995, he became the Acting Deputy Director of the Tax Administration Division and was responsible for the planning the future direction of the department and all tax policies. He was responsible for the implementation of electronic tax payments leading the Department of Revenue's efforts in utilizing electronic submission;

WHEREAS, under Daryl J. Okrzesik's personal leadership, he has developed a team of effective professionals who manage the General Accounting Division, Children and Family Benefits Unit, Accounts Payable, School Business Services, Financial Systems Subject Matter Experts, Student Records and Compliance and the Division of Revenue. Each of these units has been mentored to professionally and accurately serve other departments and ultimately the students of the Chicago Public Schools as the intended beneficiaries. He also lends his financial expertise on a regular basis to many other areas of the Board related to financial operations such as the Treasury Department, Benefits, Risk Management and Payroll, and has been crucial to improving those departmental practices as well as those under his direct purview;

WHEREAS, Daryl J. Okrzesik has reengineered the Medicaid data collection process from a paper based system to a fully electronic process, facilitated legislative changes, expanded the classification of billable services and increased the billing rate, which generated over \$700 million of additional revenue for the district;

WHEREAS, Daryl J. Okresik has facilitated and improved banking services at over six hundred and fifty schools by developing automated bookkeeping activities and oversaw authorship of the Internal Accounts Manual which details polices and best practices for every business transaction that a school encounters;

WHEREAS, Daryl J. Okrzesik has consistently demonstrated his visionary leadership as he partnered with the Chicago Public Schools Enterprise Team in implementing cutting-edge financial accounting software;

WHEREAS, Daryl J. Okrzesik has guided the Chicago Public Schools in achieving numerous annual awards in governmental accounting from the Government Finance Officers Association for each year since 1998 in timely producing the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report while simultaneously guiding the Chicago Public Schools through fourteen annual external audits of all the books and records of the Chicago Public Schools. This award is a prestigious national award, recognizing conformance with the highest standards of preparation of state and local government financial reports;

WHEREAS, Daryl J. Okrzesik has earned the Certificate of Excellence for Financial Reporting from the Association of School Business Officials International for thirteen consecutive years. This award is in recognition of the importance of Daryl J. Okrzesik's fiscal policies that have been upgraded annually to strengthen the internal controls throughout the district and its ability to undertake new financial initiatives each year. His contribution to the financial management team and enhanced financial reporting were also instrumental in the Board's improvement in credit rating over the past decade.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the President and Members of the Chicago Board of Education, gathered here this 27th day of June, 2012, do hereby extend to Daryl J. Okrzesik our thanks for his remarkable and exemplary service and offer our most sincere gratitude for his contributions to the Chicago Public Schools and the children of the City of Chicago; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be made available to Daryl J. Okrzesik.