

May 28, 2014

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GREAT CITY SCHOOLS'
MALES OF COLOR INITIATIVE**

WHEREAS, the Council of the Great City Schools' has adopted an initiative to promote dedicated efforts by urban school systems nationwide to reduce the drop-out rate, increase the academic achievement, attendance and graduation rates and improve the teaching and learning of African American and Hispanic male students ("Males of Color");

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to pledge its support for the Council of the Great City Schools' and the Council's initiative to improve the education outcomes of Males of Color in urban school systems;

WHEREAS, the Board wishes the District to undertake dedicated efforts to ensure all students, including Males of Color, advance towards key learning milestones, satisfy college and career-readiness standards and become powerful thinkers, effective communicators and engaged learners; and

WHEREAS, the Board is committed to ensuring all students, including Males of Color, are taught to the highest academic standards and prepared for successful participation in our nation.

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

The Chief Executive Officer or designee is hereby authorized to pursue activities and strategies to ensure:

1. The District's pre-school efforts are geared to best serve Males of Color and their academic and social development.
2. Elementary and middle schools work to increase the pipeline of Males of Color who are achieving academically and socially and who are ready to succeed at the high school level.
3. Effective data management tools and protocols are in place to monitor the progress of all students, including Males of Color, in order to appropriately intervene at the earliest warning signs.
4. The District's truancy initiative evaluates promising and proven approaches to reducing absenteeism, especially chronic absenteeism, among Males of Color.
5. The District's Student Code of Conduct and related supportive intervention programs are focused on retaining Males of Color in school and reducing suspension and expulsion rates.
6. The District works to increase the numbers of Males of Color and other students participating in advanced placement and honors courses and gifted and talented programs.
7. The District works with colleges of education who train future CPS teachers to strongly encourage their use of curriculum that addresses the academic, cultural and social needs of Males of Color, and to collaborate with the colleges of education on evaluating their teacher preparation curriculum for effectiveness in serving Males of Color.
8. The District's college and career success initiatives work to increase the numbers of Males of Color and other students who complete the FASFA.
9. The District's diverse learner supports and services initiatives are geared to best serve Males of Color with disabilities to ensure their academic success and social development.
10. The District works to improve high schools with persistently low graduation rates among Males of Color and others and to provide literacy and engagement initiatives with parents.
11. The District engages in a broader discussion and examination of how issues of race, language and culture affect the District's work to serve all students.