

September 25, 2019

**RESOLUTION HONORING ABIGAYIL L. JOSEPH
CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, after serving the Chicago Public Schools for 16 years with faithful service and dedication, Abigayil L. Joseph has left the Chicago Public Schools, the nation's third largest school district, to pursue other endeavors; and

WHEREAS, at the time of her departure Abigayil L. Joseph was the Chief of Staff to the Chicago Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, as Chief of Staff to the Board some of her key responsibilities included the operational management for the Chicago Board of Education; coordinating all policy, operations, and strategic logistics between the Board, Mayor's Office, and Chicago Public Schools (CPS) Leadership; and responsible for the governance, organizational, and financial oversight of the Board Office; and

WHEREAS, Abigayil L. Joseph also spearheaded critical engagement with internal and external stakeholders to increase public access to the Board. This led to the development of the first progressive online platform for enhanced community access to the Board. The website provided for ease of use for board meeting and office hours registration, and achieved 24-hour response cycle to community and parent issues and concerns; and

WHEREAS, Abigayil L. Joseph also served on the Ethics Committee with the Ethics Advisor, General Counsel and four other CPS leaders to opine on all ethics issues across the Chicago Public Schools; and as the Interim Executive Director of the Children First Fund, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization for Chicago Public Schools that has brought in over \$100M to CPS, with the majority raised in the last five years from foundations, business partners and individual donors to fund strategic programs in schools; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure at CPS she also served as Chief Officer in the Office of Academic Enhancement where she provided innovative strategies for new school design, admissions processes, magnet and international baccalaureate schools and programs, selective enrollment testing processes, and charter school collaboration; and her leadership contributed to taking the district from consent decree to unitary status and developing a new admissions formula to include socio-economic variables in order to maintain diversity at our magnet and selective enrollment schools and as Director of Magnet Schools and Programs where she provided direction and vision that brought together the best practices of magnet and gifted schools; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career with Chicago Public Schools, Abigayil L. Joseph worked as a mission-driven leader with proven track record of inspiring a culture of excellence, leading an organization through strategic planning, transformational change management processes, and internal and external branding; and

WHEREAS, Abigayil L. Joseph will be remembered as a strong, collaborative manager that is guided by her values and passion about developing others, cultivating authentic relationships, and navigating large, complex systems, and

WHEREAS, Abigayil L. Joseph will be missed by colleagues and friends at the Chicago Public Schools and the Chicago Board of Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Board President and Members of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, this 25th day of September, do hereby extend to Abigayil L. Joseph our heartiest congratulations and offer our gratitude for her contributions to the education of the children of Chicago.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be made available to Abigayil L. Joseph.