



Allegheny County Council

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Title...

Proclamation congratulating Ms. Josephine B. Moore upon the occasion of her retirement as the President and Co-Founder of The Neighborhood Academy.

Body...

WHEREAS, Josephine “Jodie” B. Moore, President and Co-Founder of the Neighborhood Academy, will officially retire after more than 35 years of dedicated service to Pittsburgh’s youth; and

WHEREAS, a native of St. Louis, Ms. Moore began her career in Philadelphia as an interior designer and project manager. She arrived in Pittsburgh in 1980 and put her design career on hold to answer a call to ministry. In the late 1980s, Ms. Moore started and led the Larimer Avenue Youth Club, a ministry working with at-risk youth in several distressed and underserved Pittsburgh neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, after six years of partnering with Reverend Thomas E. Johnson, Jr. in founding and running a successful Summer School for at-risk 7th through 11th graders, R.K. Mellon Foundation funded Ms. Moore’s study of successful inner-city schools and the development of the business plan that would become The Neighborhood Academy on September 12, 2001; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, Ms. Moore and the Neighborhood Academy’s Board of Directors launched the \$10 million Forging Futures Capital Campaign to address both the need for an endowment and for a new facility on 7.8 acres of land in Stanton Heights, providing a college-preparatory education to low-income students; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Moore graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a B.A. in Russian History, from the New York School of Design with an Associate Degree in Interior Design, and from the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary with a Masters of Divinity;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Allegheny County Council does hereby congratulate ***Ms. Josephine “Jodie” B. Moore*** upon the occasion of her retirement, and we thank her for her leadership in helping to break the cycle of generational poverty in Pittsburgh. Her long and distinguished service deserves the accolades of our citizenry, and this Council wishes her all the best in her future endeavors.