



City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Text File

Introduced: 4/21/2009

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Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, Head Start is a federal- and state-funded program that provides all pre-school children ages 3 - 5 with free, quality, flexible programming designed to promote kindergarten readiness by increasing language development, pre-reading, pre-math, writing and social skills ; and,

WHEREAS, Research has shown Head Start programs provide some of the most important tools for closing the achievement gap and leveling the playing field for all children by providing a high quality pre-school experience that responds to the strengths and needs of each individual child and family; and,

WHEREAS, Head Start has demonstrated a track record of helping to break the cycle of poverty and violence by providing children from primarily low-income families with a free comprehensive education program designed to meet their emotional, social, intellectual, health-related, nutritional and psychological needs ; and,

WHEREAS, Since its inception in 1965 our local Head Start programs have provided pre-school programming to over 92,000 children throughout Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh and in the current school year alone, Head Start has provided services to more than 4,000 children and families residing in Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh ; and,

WHEREAS, to prevent childhood obesity and promote nutritional awareness with a focus on exercise both in the classroom and at home to underscore the theme that a healthy child is better prepared to learn, Head Start is currently using the wellness curriculum "I Am Moving, I Am Learning" ; and," ;

WHEREAS, the three Head Start programs of Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh have formed a unique collaborative and together are sponsoring the week beginning April 27, 2009, to be Head Start Week, inviting local residents to take part in open houses at Head Start Centers in their communities, meet the Head Start professional staffs and see first hand the tremendous resource Head Start is for families in this region while also launching the program's Early Enrollment Campaign to encourage families to enroll children now for the fall start of the 2009-2010 school year.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize Head Start for the contribution it has made to this region and commends Head Start from Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh for the 4,000 piece art mural to be displayed at the Allegheny County Department of Human Services Building marking Head Start Week ; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare the week of April 27, 2009, to be "HEADSTART WEEK" in the City of Pittsburgh.