



City of Pittsburgh

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

Text File

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Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, Sara Frazier Ellis founded The Ellis School in 1916, Pittsburgh’s only preparatory school dedicated solely to the learning of young girls from age three to grade twelve. Since its founding, The Ellis School has truly lived up to its original vision of becoming a “leading school for girls, providing an excellent education for every student and continuing to innovate so each girl thrives in school and excels in life”; and,

WHEREAS, the Ellis School provides an opportunity for every girl to learn, regardless of background. Currently, the student body encompasses 68 zip codes and 35 school districts, with ethnic minorities making up 38% of the student body, and with 37% of students receiving need-based financial aid; and,

WHEREAS, the curriculum at The Ellis School connects students to the community through service projects and initiatives; not only giving students the experience they need to one day become community leaders, but also serving the people of Pittsburgh in a direct and meaningful way; and,

WHEREAS, the culture and curriculum at The Ellis School has facilitated the growth of city leaders, including the well-known philanthropist and activist, Elsie Hillman. With more than 90% of the class of 2015 attending a top-choice college, The Ellis School continues to mold leaders and success stories; and,

WHEREAS, the Ellis School helped found and is a member of educational advancement projects such as the Online School for Girls; the Girls Advancing in STEM (GAINS) Network, and the Girls of Steel all-girls robotic team mentored at Carnegie Mellon University. The Girls of Steel team has qualified for the robotics world championship every year since the team’s inception four years ago; and,

WHEREAS, Robin Newham, head of The Ellis School, said “An all-girls environment may not represent the entire world, but it does give women the equipment they need to be ready for the world with the confidence that they need to be able to manage every situation that comes towards them,” a summation that is found true in the school’s awards and alumnae.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize the 100th anniversary of The Ellis School and commend it for its vital involvement in education, and in the services it provides for our communities; and for proving that, when given equal opportunities to achieve, girls can successfully reach their goals, and inspire others to pursue theirs; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare January 19, 2016 to be “The Ellis School Anniversary Day” in the City of Pittsburgh.