



City of Pittsburgh

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

Text File

Introduced: 9/13/2016

Bill No: 2016-0775, **Version:** 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, Dr. Sandy Och has spent the last 37 years sharing her knowledge and skills as an educator with the children of the City of Pittsburgh; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Och can be described as someone who is devoted to children and innovation in education; and,

WHEREAS, during Dr. Och's four years at Duquesne University, she began her teaching practicum at Concord Elementary. It was here that she fell in love with teaching first grade; and,

WHEREAS, after graduation, Dr. Och approached the Pittsburgh Board of Education and requested to teach first grade, but was told that they were in need of middle school teachers; and

WHEREAS, after a year gaining experience as a middle school teacher at St Mary of the Mount, Dr. Och went back to the Pittsburgh Board of Education ready to teach middle school and was placed at Pittsburgh Brookline as middle school science teacher; and,

WHEREAS, during her first several years as a new teacher, Dr. Och taught everything from reading and language arts, to Headstart in Arlington and gym and math at Sterrett Classical Academy; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Och then moved on to completing her doctorate at the University of Pittsburgh, during which time she worked as a Clinical Resident Teacher at the Greenway Teacher Center and later Arsenal Middle School; and,

WHEREAS, after completing her doctorate, Dr. Och spent time as the Dean of Students, as well as serving as principal at Friendship, West Liberty Classical, and Carmalt; and,

WHEREAS, when her daughter entered her life, Dr. Och wanted to be closer to home, leading her to stay at Carmalt for the next 17 years until her retirement during the summer of 2016; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Och has worked to compile shout outs for the Pittsburgh City Council District 4 newsletter, and organize such things as forensic competitions, partnerships with Chatham University and neighborhood Carnegie Libraries, and the establishment of an intervention period which the district replicated; and,

WHEREAS, as an avid animal lover, Dr. Och brought therapy dogs to Carmalt for four years to sit and listen while first graders read to them; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Och has achieved many accolades through achievements such as receiving selective grants

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from Crayola and Verizon, duplication of the “Step Together” prekindergarten cards across the district, and a feature story on WPXI covering the “Step Together” kindergarten camp; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does thank Dr. Och for her 37 years of service and wish her luck on the next step in her journey as an educator; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Tuesday, September 13, 2016, to be “**Dr. Sandy Och Day**” in the City of Pittsburgh.