



# City of Pittsburgh

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

## Text File

**Introduced:** 3/8/2024

**Bill No:** 2024-0253, **Version:** 1

**Committee:** City Council

**Status:** Adopted

**WHEREAS**, The Urban Academy has a rich legacy as the region’s oldest charter school, founded in 1997 by African American community leaders and educators, chief among them being Esther L. Bush of the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh. The school traditions are deeply rooted in our founders’ belief that ALL children, especially black children, deserve to be immersed in a high-quality, rigorous, culturally relevant, and responsive learning environment. Under the leadership of *Dr. Janet Bell*, *Dr. Gail Edwards*, *K. Chase Patterson* and Principal *Dr. Angelique Drakeford*, the school has become a model of academic excellence for Black students in the greater Pittsburgh region; and,

**WHEREAS**, The mission of the Urban Academy of Greater Pittsburgh Charter School is to provide a superior education that will develop our students’ academic excellence, leadership skills and social values that will enable them to ultimately become positive contributors to the community in which they live, and society as a whole; and,

**WHEREAS**, The Urban Academy faculty and staff are a family-oriented team, driven by the school’s twenty-five-year legacy and traditions. The school works daily to deliver instructional and school-based activities that reinforce our students’ perception of skill, self-esteem, and self-sufficiency. The Urban Academy operates under high expectations for our students and, as such, makes sure that students have access to the tools, resources and support needed to succeed in an environment of high expectations, academic standards, and familiar cultural context; and,

**WHEREAS**, When a student leaves the Urban Academy, they will have the skills and attitudes necessary for academic success, life-long learning and self-esteem. Moreover, they will be prepared emotionally and psychologically to avoid or withstand the rigor of the environment as they matriculate through their learning career.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare *February 24th, 2024*, to be “Urban Academy Charter School Day” in the City of Pittsburgh.