

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 305

Approved June 25, 2009

WHEREAS, The year 1909 marked a year of many firsts. William Howard Taft was inaugurated as the Twenty-Seventh President of the United States. Construction began on the Titanic and the United States Navy founded a base in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was founded and the Brooklyn Bridge opened. The cost of a first class stamp was \$0.02; and

WHEREAS, The City of Providence responded to the burgeoning immigrant population and the increase in the number of children barred from working in neighborhood mills and factories, by opening the Veazie Street School in September 1909; and

WHEREAS, Children, mostly from recently arrived Italian families, attended Veazie Street School for grades 1-8 and then graduated to work or, if fortunate, to continue on to high school; and

WHEREAS, As student population shrank in the 1970's, Veazie Street School became increasingly an administrative office building until, in 1980, Veazie Street School closed as a school and became the Administrative building for the Providence School Department; and

WHEREAS, During the 1990s with the infusion of new populations from the Caribbean, East Asia, and West Africa; Mayor Vincent A. Cianci ordered the Veazie Street School to re-open in September 1992 after a \$9 million renovation; and

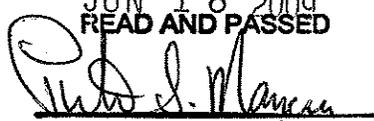
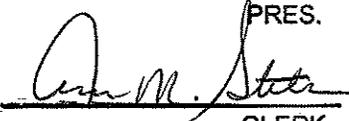
WHEREAS, With a newly refurbished building came an enhanced mission for Veazie Street School. Veazie Street School was re-designed as a "21st Century Model providing a comprehensive program that addressed the needs of families and the education of the whole child"; and

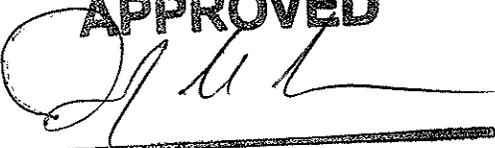
WHEREAS, Veazie Street School has embraced the School District's goals of improving student achievement, building capacity for improvement instruction and strengthening community relations. Today, Veazie Street School has improved their mandated state test scores in all grades; and

WHEREAS, As Veazie Street School nears its 100th anniversary; despite vast changes in education practice and philosophy, over the years the guiding principle of Veazie Street School has remained the same: "Improving Tomorrow by Learning Today".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That this Honorable City Council of the City of Providence hereby congratulates Veazie Street School on the joyous occasion of their one hundredth anniversary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Clerk be and he hereby is authorized and directed to transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Veazie Street School Principal Susan Chin.

IN CITY COUNCIL
JUN 18 2009
READ AND PASSED

PRES.

CLERK

APPROVED

MAYOR 6/25/09