

**RESOLUTION HONORING BARBARA T. BOWMAN  
CHIEF OFFICER, EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS**, Barbara T. Bowman was appointed Chief Officer for Early Childhood Education of the Chicago Public Schools in 2004 by the Chief Executive Officer, Arne Duncan and has continued in that role for the past eight years;

**WHEREAS**, Barbara T. Bowman has led the District's preschool programs which annually serve approximately 35,000 children, aged birth to five, each school year;

**WHEREAS**, Barbara T. Bowman received a Bachelor's Degree from Sarah Lawrence College and a Master's Degree in Education from the University of Chicago;

**WHEREAS**, Barbara T. Bowman has served the educational needs of Chicago's children for the past 50 years. Since 1963, she has been an advocate for the training of early childhood educators including practitioners serving bilingual students; in 1965 she was a key participant in the development of the ground-breaking Head Start program and went on to co-found in 1966 the Erikson Institute, a graduate school and pioneer organization in teaching of early childhood education and administration;

**WHEREAS**, Barbara T. Bowman's life's work as champion for early childhood education, child development research and teacher development, has forever changed the landscape of early learning and instructional programming in the city of Chicago and nationwide;

**WHEREAS**, as the lead early childhood education strategist for the third largest school district in the nation, Barbara T. Bowman has led efforts to: (1) promote teacher's use of intentional instruction methodologies to increase kindergarten readiness, (2) use research data to inform classroom practice, (3) support integrated teacher development through self-selected professional activities, on-site coaching and mentoring, and cohorts of professional learning communities, and (4) promote focused programming for at-risk students;

**WHEREAS**, under Barbara T. Bowman's leadership the district has garnered over 10 million dollars in grants and research funds designed to develop best practice strategies in early childhood development, has increased the number of low income, at-risk children served in early childhood programs, and has expanded learning opportunities for pre-school children through a variety of program models to suit family needs;

**WHEREAS**, Barbara T. Bowman has received numerous awards for her life-long commitment to early childhood education including: Harold W. McGraw Jr. Prize in Education, Voices for Illinois' Children Start Early Award, National Black Child Development Institute Leadership Award, the Sargent Shriver Award for Equal Justice, Chicago Association for the Education of Young Children Outstanding Service to Children Award, and the National Head Start Award for Outstanding Contributions;

**WHEREAS**, Barbara T. Bowman has served on numerous boards that further early childhood development including; the Illinois Early Learning Council, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, High Scope Educational Foundation, Institute for Psychoanalysis, and the National Association for the Education of Young Children, where she served as president; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the President and Members of the Chicago Board of Education, gathered here this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2012, do hereby extend to Barbara T. Bowman our thanks for her remarkable service and offer our most sincere gratitude for her contributions to the Chicago Public Schools and the children of the City of Chicago; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be made available to Barbara T. Bowman.