

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ED FLYNN, ARROYO, BAKER, BOK,
BREADON, COLETTA, FERNANDES ANDERSON, FLAHERTY, LARA,
MEJIA, MURPHY AND WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING RENAMING THE MCKINLEY SCHOOLS TO THE MELVIN H. KING SOUTH END ACADEMY

WHEREAS: The McKinley Schools in the South End provides special education to students from kindergarten through grade 12, with a focus on behavioral, learning, and emotional needs; *and*

WHEREAS: There have been calls to rename the McKinley Schools after Rep. Melvin H. King, a longtime South End resident, who is a former State Representative, as well as a well known community activist, educator, and the first Black Boston mayoral candidate in 1983; *and*

WHEREAS: Working with the Flynn administration, Mel King was instrumental in the creation of Tent City, a housing development that provides affordable housing to hundreds of residents, and he is the founder of the South End Technology Center, where young people can find resources on technology, workforce development, and community building; *and*

WHEREAS: Mel King was an advocate for community-based schooling that included the McKinley Schools, where he mentored youths. In fact, there is a large school mural of Mel King at the McKinley School to honor his advocacy and work; *and*

WHEREAS: The McKinley Schools Site Council has formally submitted a request to the Boston School Committee to rename the McKinley Schools to the Melvin H. King South End Academy, and the request will be up for a vote in the School Committee in the coming weeks; *and*

WHEREAS: Mel King devoted his life to the betterment of Boston residents, and is wholly deserving of having the McKinley Schools renamed after him; *and*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the Boston City Council sends its support for renaming the McKinley Schools to the Melvin H. King South End Academy, and urges that the Boston School Committee approve this name change request.

Filed on: December 14, 2022