



City of Chicago



R2019-591

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 7/24/2019

Sponsor(s): Thompson (11)

Type: Resolution

Title: Congratulations extended to Saint Ignatius College Prep on sesquicentennial celebration

Committee(s) Assignment:

**RESOLUTION HONORING SAINT IGNATIUS COLLEGE PREP ON THEIR
150TH ANNIVERSARY**

WHEREAS, Saint Ignatius College Prep is Chicago's first Catholic Jesuit co-educational high school located in the Near West Side neighborhood. The School was founded in Chicago in 1869 by Fr. Arnold Damen, S.J. a Belgian missionary to the United States. Damen Avenue is actually named after founder Fr. Arnold Damen, SJ, who emigrated to the United States from his native Holland; and

WHEREAS, July 1st, 2019 will mark 150 years that Saint Ignatius College Prep will have been in service in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of this auspicious occasion by the Honorable Patrick D. Thompson, Alderman of the 11th Ward; and

WHEREAS, Saint Ignatius College Prep sesquicentennial celebration year will start July 1, 2019 and will end on June 30, 2020. The school has several events planned to celebrate this monumental occasion; and

WHEREAS, President of St. Ignatius; Fr. Michael P. Caruso is dedicated to educating young Catholic men and women for lives of faith, love, service and leadership; and

WHEREAS, Vice President of Saint Ignatius John Chandler is a true pioneer of business and education and with over 45 years of experience at the school. He has worked to raise money to ensure that any child can attend that qualifies; and

WHEREAS, Saint Ignatius College Prep prides itself on being a unique and diverse community of students, alumni, parents, families, faculty, staff and friends of the school; and

WHEREAS, Saint Ignatius College Prep outstanding teaching and personal formation, the school challenges its talented student body to intellectual excellence, integrity, and life-long learning and growth. Inspired by the gospel of Jesus Christ, this community strives to use God's gifts to promote social justice for the greater glory of God; and

WHEREAS, Saint Ignatius College Prep main building was designed by the Canadian architect Toussaint Menard. This is one of the five public buildings that survived the Great Chicago Fire of 1871; and

WHEREAS, On October 8, 1871 the Chicago Fire began on Jefferson and DeKoven Streets, just five blocks from Saint Ignatius. The flames were headed toward the school and Fr. Damen stood on his front porch and prayed that his beloved church and college be saved; and

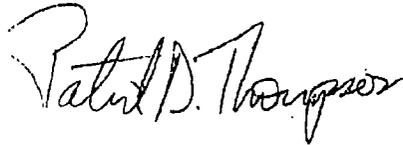
WHEREAS, Saint Ignatius College Prep became one of the first colleges in the Chicago area. Predating the University of Chicago by 20 years. It is the foundation for Loyola University Chicago. Students were taught in Latin, Greek, the elementary sciences, writing, math, and rhetoric. In 1922, Saint Ignatius College Prep adopted the modern form of an American high school. The school buildings on Roosevelt Road were edged around by Holy Family Church and Elementary School to the west, a neighborhood of homes to the north, and commercial establishments to its east turning around the whole area. The campus has grown from 2 acres to 25 acres; and

WHEREAS, Saint Ignatius competes in the Chicago Catholic League and the Girls Catholic Athletic Conference and is a member of the Illinois High School Association. The school's teams are stylized as the "Wolfpack"; and

WHEREAS, Saint Ignatius College Prep includes some notable alumni that include Charles Comiskey, Chicago Mayor Carter Harrison, the Honorable Patrick D. Thompson, the Honorable Roderick T. Sawyer and many more;

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago gathered here this twenty fourth day of July 2019, do hereby express our gratitude and congratulations to Saint Ignatius College Prep of this historic celebration and do hereby declare the first day of July 2019 as "A Day for Saint Ignatius College Prep"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Saint Ignatius College Prep.



Patrick D. Thompson
Alderman, 11th Ward