



# City of Chicago



**R2021-976**

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	9/14/2021
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	Rodriguez (22)
<b>Type:</b>	Resolution
<b>Title:</b>	Congratulations to Dr. Guillermo "Willy" Montes de Oca on retirement from Chicago Public Schools
<b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b>	

**RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF  
DR. GUILLERMO "WILLY" MONTES DE OCA**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Guillermo "Willy" Montes de Oca, one of the highest-ranking Latinos at Chicago Public Schools, retired in June of 2021 from his position as Director of the Office of Local School Council Relations for Chicago Public Schools; and

**WHEREAS**, The Chicago City Council has been informed of this milestone by the Honorable Michael D. Rodriguez, Alderman of the 22nd Ward; and

**WHEREAS**, Born on October 23, 1957 in Havana, Cuba, Willy, emigrated to the United States in 1980; after stints as a factory laborer and bartender, Willy began a long career in community development; and

**WHEREAS**, As program coordinator, and later program director, of social services at the venerable Gads Hill settlement house in Pilsen, Willy worked to provide resources to young immigrants and their parents; and

**WHEREAS**, It became obvious to Willy that sustainable community empowerment required educational achievement – thus began his long-term engagement with Chicago Public Schools; and

**WHEREAS**, For the last 12 years, Willy has worked to ensure that 400,000, mostly low-income minority, students gain the most from their educational experience by implementing the vision of local schools working together with parents for the common goal of academic achievement; and

**WHEREAS**, As Director of the Office of Local School Council Relations, Willy has successfully implemented the Chicago School Reform Act of 1988, which created a model and framework for ensuring that parents and community residents are working partners in the educational of their children; and

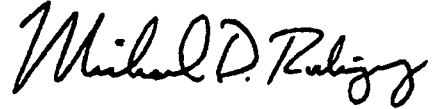
**WHEREAS**, Willy has worked tirelessly to maintain a structure of 500 local school councils across the City made of up parents, community residents, teachers, and principals; his technical assistance, support, and continuous advocacy have sustained this complex and fragile structure and ensured that it not only outlived similar efforts across the country, but is still thriving after 30 years; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2020, Willy oversaw the 16th Local School Council elections, helping to ensure the institutionalization of one of the central partnerships in a young person's life: the collaboration between parents, community, and schools; and

**WHEREAS**, The City will forever be shaped by Willy's years of service and devotion to Chicago Public Schools; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this fourteenth day of September, 2021, do hereby congratulate Dr. Guillermo "Willy" Montes de Oca on his retirement from Chicago Public Schools and thank him for his years of dedicated service; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Dr. Guillermo "Willy" Montes de Oca as a sign of our gratitude, and in honor of his service to the community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael D. Rodriguez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" being the most prominent.

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MICHAEL D. RODRIGUEZ  
Alderman, 22nd Ward