

Office of the Chicago City Clerk



R2012-310

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

3/14/2012

Sponsor(s):

Foulkes, Toni (15)

Type:

Resolution

Title:

Congratulations extended to Maria High School

Committee(s) Assignment:

SALUTE TO MARIA HIGH SCHOOL

WHEREAS, Maria High School, an outstanding religious educational institution on Chicago's South Side, is celebrating their centennial year on the; and

WHEREAS, Mother Maria Kaupas, foundress of the Sisters of St. Casimir, along with her band of coreligionists, opened St. Casimir Academy on September 5, 1911. It was primarily founded as a boarding and day school for educating girls of Lithuanian descent. This was an important addition to the community since, at the time, there were no schools in that area. In 1929, the academy transitioned into being a solely a day school for students of high-school age. Four decades following the opening of the academy, it could no longer continue accepting students due to overpopulation. In 1952, they opened a new school to acommodate the bourgeoning number of students seeking a Catholic high school education. It was named in honor of both Mother Maria and the Virgin Mary; and

WHEREAS, Maria High School has educated many great young Chicago women including Cook County's State Attorney Anita Alvarez and Illinois Supreme Court Justice Anne Burke. Their mission is to "educate the whole child by focusing on their behavior, social skills and emotional well-being in addition to their study skills and academics." Currently, the school has an enrollment rate of 210 students from Chicago Lawn, Pilsen, and Berwyn. They offer college preparatory classes as well as electives such as cooking and sewing. 100% of Maria's Class of 2011 was accepted into college; and

WHEREAS, On September 8th, 2011 Maria's 100th anniversary celebration began with a special liturgy held in the Chapel of the Sisters of St. Casimir and was celebrated by Reverend Thomas McCarthy. Gathered at the commemoration were students, faculty, nuns, and alummni; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Toni Foulkes, Alderman of the 15th Ward has informed this august body of Maria High School's centennial anniversary celebration, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED That we, the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago City Council, gathered together this 14th Day of March, 2012 AD, do hereby salute the 100 year anniversary of Maria High School, extend our very best wishes for continuing success in the many decades to come and declare Saturday, April 21, 2012 as "Maria High School Centennial Celebration Day" throughout Chicago.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Maria High School.

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Alderman – 15th Ward