



## **PROCLAMATION OF APPRECIATION FOR RUPA DATTA**

Whereas Rupa Datta was elected by the citizens of Oak Park on April 7, 2015 to serve on the District 97 Board of Education; and

Whereas Rupa Datta spent her time as a member of the board striving to improve the quality of instruction in our schools, pursuing more equitable student and family access to critical resources, and advocating for the needs of every child the district serves; and

Whereas Rupa Datta played a pivotal role in the important work the board and district have undertaken and the achievements they have amassed during the past four years, including the hiring of Superintendent Carol Kelley, the passage of the referenda in 2017, the negotiation of innovative, forward-looking collective bargaining agreements with our employee groups, and the adoption and advancement of a vision that is helping all students learn, grow and achieve; and

Whereas Rupa Datta championed the expanded use of data for the purposes of monitoring and measuring student progress, building on the capacity and expertise of our faculty and staff, maximizing the use of our resources, and preserving and promoting the long-term viability of our schools; and

Whereas Rupa Datta always sought to make the work of the board and district more visible and transparent in order to help the community better access it, understand it and contribute to its success; and

Whereas Rupa Datta helped strengthen the relationships the board and district had with students, staff and families by exploring opportunities to increase two-way communication and ensuring that there was always an equity of voice represented at the board table; and

Whereas Rupa Datta's commitment to sound fiscal governance was reflected in her efforts to keep the local property tax issue and its impact on the people of Oak Park at the forefront of the conversations that were had and decisions that were made by the board; and

Whereas Rupa Datta supported the work of several key committees by representing the board on the Finance Oversight and Review Committee, the Committee for Legislative Action, Intervention and Monitoring, the Committee for Community Engagement, the Policy Committee and the Benefits Committee, and by serving as a board liaison to the Oak Park Education Foundation and the Collaboration for Early Childhood;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the District 97 Board of Education that it affirms the aforementioned accomplishments of Rupa Datta; and

Be It Further Resolved that the District 97 Board of Education expresses its appreciation and gratitude to Rupa Datta for her leadership in helping to build a better tomorrow for our schools and students.

Proclaimed on this 30<sup>th</sup> day of April 2019.