



PROCLAMATION OF APPRECIATION FOR BOB SPATZ

Whereas Bob Spatz was elected by the citizens of Oak Park on April 17, 2007 to serve on the District 97 Board of Education; and

Whereas Bob Spatz's dedicated service as a member, vice president and president of the board played an integral role in the successful passage of referenda in 2011 and 2017 that have aided the long-term viability of our schools, are supporting the safety, functionality, accessibility and sustainability of our buildings, are helping us meet the growing needs of a burgeoning student population, and are advancing our vision of creating a positive learning environment for all students that is equitable, inclusive and focused on the whole child; and

Whereas Bob Spatz's strong commitment to early childhood education contributed to the district's decision to move to full-day kindergarten, helped generate increased support for the work of the Collaboration for Early Childhood, and was instrumental in the creation and implementation of the Erikson/Early Development Instrument initiative; and

Whereas Bob Spatz's expert leadership in the area of fiscal stewardship was critical to the formation of the board's Financial Oversight and Review Committee (FORC) and Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC), and helped lead to the development, adoption and implementation of several key financial policies, including 4:12 (Finance Goals and Objectives), 4:34 (Financial Transparency) and 4:42 (Capital Expenditures and Debt Service Goals and Objectives); and

Whereas Bob Spatz championed the hard work and tireless efforts of our faculty and staff by assisting with the negotiation of contracts with our four employee groups that were fair, forward-thinking and included various benefits and incentives (e.g., higher starting salaries, tuition reimbursement, compensation for the completion of National Board Certification, etc.) that highlight the importance of attracting and retaining high caliber educational and support professionals; and

Whereas Bob Spatz built on the district's history of academic excellence by helping lead the efforts to recruit and hire superintendents Carol Kelley and Al Roberts, and supporting programs, projects and initiatives such as the International Baccalaureate Program, Project Lead the Way and the Kindergarten Individual Development Survey pilot project that have promoted the growth and development of students both in and out of the classroom; and

Whereas Bob Spatz's advocacy for children throughout Illinois was reflected in his various roles, responsibilities and accomplishments at the state level, including the help he offered with the creation of the local capacity percent and allocation approach used in the Evidence-Based Funding model, as well as his eight years of service on ED-RED, 10 years of service on the Illinois Early Learning Council's Data Research and Evaluation sub-committee, and 11 years of service on the IASB West Cook Executive Board; and

Whereas Bob Spatz's steadfast belief in the value and importance of board service was highlighted by his designation as a Master Board Member, his being a key member of the boards that earned the Illinois Association of School Boards' School Board Governance Recognition designation in 2013 and 2015, as well as an Award of Excellence from the Illinois State Board of Education in 2011, his representation on the board's Policy Committee, FAC, FORC and Committee for Legislative Action, Intervention and Monitoring, and his

role as a board liaison to organizations such as the Collaboration for Early Childhood and InterGovernmental Assembly;

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

Be It Further Resolved that the District 97 Board of Education expresses its appreciation and gratitude to Bob Spatz for all that he did to help our students learn, grow and achieve during his 12 years as a member of the board.

Proclaimed on this 30th day of April 2019.