Board of Directors Resolution Recognizing Tracy McDaniel's Service and Retirement and Declaring Juneteenth an Annual Holiday on the KIPP OKC Public Schools Calendar.

June 25th 2020

WHEREAS, Tracy McDaniel is a life-long supporter of quality education for children in Oklahoma City; and,

WHEREAS, during his 19 years as the head of KIPP OKC Public Schools, Tracy McDaniel advanced access to education and paved a pathway to college for all children in Oklahoma City, particularly Black and Latinx children; and,

WHEREAS, as a true education advocate, in March of 2004, McDaniel briefed more than 30 staff members from the Congressional Black Caucus about KIPP and testified before the House Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education,

WHEREAS, McDaniel’s accomplishments include: Ebony Tribune’s Keepers of the Dream Award (2002), State of Oklahoma Vice Principal of the Year (2000), Langston University Hall of Fame in the Education Department (1996), Oklahoma City Public Schools Teacher of the Year (1995-96), University of Central Oklahoma Excellent Educator Award (1995), and Excellent Educator Award by the Oklahoma City Public School Foundation (1995); and,

WHEREAS, Tracy McDaniel has regularly used his skills and platform to advance the subject of improving public education for BIPOC and never tiring of asking people to examine “What is the cost of not educating children?”; and,

WHEREAS, Tracy McDaniel ensured that Black History was a core part of the KIPP OKC curriculum and centered in every important conversation within the school, which included the history and significance of Juneteenth;

WHEREAS, June 19, 1865 is the date on which news of the end of slavery reached enslaved Black people in the State of Texas in Galveston, which was more than 2 ½ years after President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation; and Juneteenth Independence Day also known as Jubilee Day, became a day for celebration, inspiration and encouragement for Black people living in the United States; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the KIPP OKC Board of Directors meeting on the 25th of June does hereby commend Tracy McDaniel for his years of service to the organization and, in recognition for that service and in his honor, declares that June 19th or Juneteenth will be an annual holiday on the 12 month KIPP OKC Public Schools calendar.

PO Box 14128 Oklahoma City, OK  73113 | 8400 N. Robinson Ave. Oklahoma City, OK  73114
Phone: (405) 849-9700 | Fax: (405) 849-9108
Email: powertolead@kippokc.org | Website: www.kippokc.org