

RESOLUTION NUMBER 65
AS AMENDED
TO SUPPORT A MORATORIUM
ON NEW SCHOOL OPENINGS IN THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS
UNTIL A COMPREHENSIVE CITY-WIDE PLAN FOR EDUCATION IS DEVELOPED

WHEREAS, the population of school-age children ages 5-19 in the City of St. Louis has decreased by 18.6% between 2007 and 2018; and

WHEREAS, the public school system in the City of St. Louis includes both traditional district schools and charter schools; and

WHEREAS, in 2007-08 there were 103 public schools serving 60,642 children and in 2019-20 there were 110 public schools serving 49,939 children; and

WHEREAS, the local, state, and federal support for school choice programs continues to create a system of schools and programs that fight over a declining population of children and a shrinking pool of resources, leading to duplicated services and system-wide inefficiencies; and

WHEREAS, Saint Louis Public Schools has closed schools and continues to face the challenge of future school closures in order to best serve its current student population and preserve district resources to ensure its continued existence; and

WHEREAS, vacant district and charter school buildings create negative impacts on our neighborhoods and collaboration between the city, schools, and developers are needed to create strong communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis requires a city-wide plan for education to ensure the public school system provides a quality education for all children regardless of their enrollment in a district or charter school; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis supports a moratorium on new school openings in the City of St. Louis until a comprehensive city-wide plan for education is developed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Aldermen commits to engaging with education system leaders, including the Board of Education of St. Louis City, education practitioners, community stakeholders, city- and state-level policy makers, and scholars in the development of such a plan to design a system of excellent schools which provides consistent education opportunities across all schools, neighborhoods, and wards. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to prepare a formal copy to the end that it may be presented at a time and place and to those deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 16th day of July, 2021 by:

The Honorable Jesse Todd, Alderman 18th Ward

The Honorable Sarah Martin, Alderwoman 11th Ward

The Honorable Anne Schweitzer, Alderwoman 13th Ward

The Honorable Annie Rice, Alderwoman 8th Ward

The Honorable Megan Green, Alderwoman 15th Ward

The Honorable Bill Stephens, Alderman 12th Ward

The Honorable Marlene Davis, Alderwoman 19th Ward
The Honorable Dwindlerlin Evans, Alderwoman 4th Ward
The Honorable Sharon Tyus, Alderwoman 1st Ward
The Honorable Bret Narayan, Alderman 24th Ward
The Honorable Tina Pihl, Alderwoman 17th Ward
The Honorable Carol Howard, Alderwoman 14th Ward
The Honorable Dan Guenther, Alderman 9th Ward
The Honorable Pamela Boyd, Alderman 27th Ward
The Honorable James Page, Alderman 5th Ward
The Honorable Brandon Bosley, Alderman 3rd Ward
The Honorable Shane Cohn, Alderman 25th Ward
The Honorable Joseph Vaccaro, Alderman 23rd Ward

Adopted the 22 day of October, 2021, as attested by:

Terry Kennedy
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen