

**RESOLUTION NO. 27**  
**Ms. Elsa Whitfield**

**WHEREAS**, we have been apprised that after 32 years of dedicated service in the field of education, Ms. Elsa Whitfield will be retiring on May 31, 2017, from Earl Nance Sr. Elementary School; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Whitfield has provided 32 years of service in the field of education as a kindergarten and preschool teacher in the St. Louis Public School District for 13 years, St. Louis Jr. Academy, the GSL Center, the Children’s Academy, the St. Louis School for the Deaf, and Adams Elementary School; she began her teaching career teaching Spanish at Belair Early Childhood in Mandeville, Jamaica; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Elsa Whitfield was bestowed the honor of Teacher of the Year at Earl Nance Sr. Elementary School in 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, in her spare time, she uses her talents to sing with St. Louis Symphony in Unison at Powell Symphony Hall, her church choir at the Agape Seventh Day Adventist Church, and the Presbyterian Chancellor Choir; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Elsa Whitfield is the 5th of 7 children; sadly, her sister passed in April, leaving her the eldest girl in the family; she is the proud mother of a 34 year old son; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Whitfield attended the University of Panama, West Indies College in Mandeville, Jamaica, where she went to learn English better and studied business administration, and Harris-Stowe State University, where she obtained her teaching degree; she grew up in the Republic of Panama in Central America; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Elsa Whitfield offers the following advice to her colleagues, “All children can learn with persistence and patience, especially with the younger students. Love what you do because you are molding for the future, and it is very important to model for them. You must be consistent with children of this age group. I wouldn’t change it for anything;” and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Elsa Whitfield Evans says she has had many funny times with children. When she asks them to tell her about Ms. Whitfield, they say things like, “She is mean. She makes us follow the rules. I don’t want to leave her. I love Ms. Whitfield.” She teaches them that following the rules is a part of life.

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Elsa Whitfield wasn’t planning to be a teacher originally; she got married when she left Jamaica and went back to Panama; she and her husband moved to the United States of America because her husband was in the military; she had two sons, but one passed away as a small child and her husband suggested that she volunteer to work with children to help with her grieving; she loved it so much that she went to school to earn her degree in early childhood, and hundreds of children have benefited from this decision; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Whitfield says, “My experience as a teacher has made me realize that our children need so much. I hope that I have helped in some special way to mold their character. As a teacher, we always reflect and wish we could give much more!”

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis

that we pause in our deliberations to congratulate Ms. Elsa Whitfield for her many years of service to students throughout St. Louis and we wish her peace and happiness in her retirement. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 25th day of May, 2017, by:

**The Honorable Dionne Flowers, Alderwoman 2nd Ward**  
**The Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President of the Board of Aldermen**  
**The Honorable Samuel L. Moore, Alderman 4th Ward**  
**The Honorable Tammika Hubbard, Alderwoman 5th Ward**  
**The Honorable Stephen Conway, Alderman 8th Ward**  
**The Honorable Larry Arnowitz, Alderman 12th Ward**  
**The Honorable Beth Murphy., Alderwoman 13th Ward**  
**The Honorable Carol Howard, Alderwoman 14th Ward**  
**The Honorable Terry Kennedy, Alderman 18th Ward**  
**The Honorable Marlene E. Davis, Alderwoman 19th Ward**  
**The Honorable John Muhammad, Alderman 21st Ward**  
**The Honorable Jeffrey L. Boyd, Alderman 22nd Ward**  
**The Honorable Joe Vacarro, Alderman 23rd Ward**  
**The Honorable Frank Williamson, Alderman 26th Ward**  
**The Honorable Pam Boyd, Alderwoman 27th Ward**

Adopted this 25th day of May, 2017, as attested by:

---

Donna Evans-Booker  
Assistant Clerk, Board of Aldermen

---

Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen