

*RESOLUTION NUMBER 249
GWENDOLYN PENNINGTON*

WHEREAS, Gwendolyn Pennington has announced her retirement after serving children and families in the City of St. Louis for the last 44 years; and

WHEREAS, Gwen began her career with the St. Louis Public School system in 1963 as a Kindergarten Teacher, traveled abroad to London, England to work as a teacher in Vauxhall Infants School for a year in 1967, returned to the United States and resumed her position with the St. Louis Public School system. She served as a Preschool Teacher in the Maplewood-Richmond Heights School District, worked as the Executive Director of the Early Child Care Development Corporation from 1972–1988, and worked as a Professor and Coordinator of Early Care and Education at St. Louis Community College from 1988–2007; and

WHEREAS, Gwen carried out duties as a community activist in the O’Fallon Park neighborhood and 20th Ward where she raised a daughter and served on numerous committees. She held leadership positions on Federation Four, O’Fallon Community Organization, Block Unit # 389, and the Seventh District Police Community Relations Organization; and

WHEREAS, Gwen has been an active member of Cote Brilliante Presbyterian Church where she served on the Boosters Committee and Trustee Board; and

WHEREAS, Gwen has participated both professionally and civically throughout her career, serving on committees, organizations, and programs ranging from the first class of the Danforth Graduate Fellowship Program, American Exchange Teacher of the Hays-Fullbright Fellow Program, President of the Black Child Development Institute – St. Louis Affiliate, and volunteering in child welfare and community improvement efforts throughout St. Louis.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen for the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to thank Gwendolyn Pennington for her many years of tireless service to provide children and families with quality early child care and education. We wish for her a healthy, well-deserved retirement, and we direct the Clerk of this Board to prepare a commemorative copy of this resolution to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

**Introduced on the 7th day of December, 2007
Honorable Charles Quincy Troupe, Alderman 1st Ward
Adopted this the 7th day of December, 2007 as attested:**

**Denise Watson-Wesley Coleman
Clerk, Board of Aldermen**

**Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen**

