

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1865

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Kiddie Kollege.

WHEREAS, Kiddie Kollege Nursery School was organized in 1954 in the home of Maxine and Crawford Williams at 836 Waverly, Kansas City, Kansas, with a total of five students. As parents in the community came to realize the value of early education, popularity of the school grew rapidly. The early emphasis was placed on acceleration in academics, social skills, speech, poise and public speaking. By 1964, Kiddie Kollege had forty students in attendance. It became necessary to increase the size of the original structure so that the facility could be properly utilized. The property at 2400 North Mill Street was purchased and a new Kiddie Kollege Child Care Center was built, just one-half block from the Williams' home. This facility housed seventy students, and the Williams' home was then used to introduce a new program of full-day kindergarten. The goal at that time was, and continues to be, excellence in educating the whole child. In 1982, Kiddie Kollege was expanded to accommodate grades 1 and 2. Another forty or more students were enrolled in Kiddie Kollege; and

WHEREAS, Kiddie Kollege Primary School was first accredited in 1990 under the leadership of Eldora Gray serving as part-time principal. Certified teachers who met Kansas state standards were hired to teach in the primary school. Kiddie Kollege attracts a cross section of children from the greater Kansas City metropolitan area which includes Overland Park plus Parkville, Raymore, Peculiar, Raytown, Lee's Summit and Kansas City, Missouri. The children are from a wide range of socio-economic homes and backgrounds. The school does not discriminate among students based on religion, race, sex, national origin or ethnic make-up. However, the school's heritage continues to primarily draw children of African-American heritage; and

WHEREAS, Following the retirement of the founder, Mrs. Williams, Trinity African Methodist Episcopal Church became the new owner of Kiddie Kollege in December 1997. Soon thereafter, the Trinity-Williams Education Corporation was established to oversee administration of the school. The corporation was granted its 501c3 nonprofit status in spring 1999; and

WHEREAS, The Trinity-Williams Education Corporation stands firm on several beliefs about a child's achievement. One of these beliefs is the degree of parental involvement in education. A major source of help has been the parent support group called the Mamas and the Papas organization, founded in 1970. Over the years, this group has provided assistance with organizing cultural field trips and benefits as well as many other helpful projects and fund-raising activities; and

WHEREAS, The success of Kiddie Kollege reflects the desire of a small number of concerned parents who wished to improve the potential of their children to succeed in contemporary America—an ideal and desire which has been highly successful, as reflected by Kiddie Kollege now attracting students from the entire greater Kansas City area: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Kiddie Kollege for the success it has had in preparing young people for further education, particularly of African-American heritage; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Senator Haley.

Senate Resolution No. 1865 was sponsored by Senator David Haley.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*