

1-21-15
WALK-ON
RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 15-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, URGING THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO AMEND THE BOUNDARY OF HARBORDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO INCLUDE THE NEIGHBORHOODS OF VICTORIA PARK, COLEE HAMMOCK, BEVERLY HEIGHTS, AND SUNRISE KEY ISLES.

WHEREAS, the assigned elementary school boundary for the Victoria Park neighborhood is currently divided among three different elementary schools, which division has a detrimental impact on neighborhood cohesion; and

WHEREAS, two of those elementary schools are underperforming and not easily accessible from Victoria Park, thereby discouraging use of the public school system by Victoria Park residents bounded to these schools, and discouraging new residents with children from moving to the large portions of the neighborhood that are bounded to those schools; and

WHEREAS, the third elementary school is Harbordale Elementary, which is a top rated school, and is easily accessible from Victoria Park; and

WHEREAS, the availability of top quality public education options for Fort Lauderdale's downtown residential neighborhoods is vital to Fort Lauderdale's ability to create jobs, and maintain a vibrant and diverse downtown community; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission has previously, *via* Resolution No. 14-213, urged "the School Board of Broward County to increase by fifty additional students the total enrollment at Virginia Shuman Young Montessori Magnet Elementary School from the Priority Area that includes Victoria Park, Flagler Village, Colee Hammock, Beverly Heights, and downtown Fort Lauderdale, Florida, in a manner it deems most appropriate."; and

WHEREAS, amending Harbordale Elementary's boundary to encompass Victoria Park would provide a single, top quality, easily accessible elementary school for resident children who are either unable to be admitted to Virginia Shuman Young Montessori Magnet Elementary School or who are more appropriately suited for a traditional elementary school rather than a Montessori school; and

WHEREAS, any amendment to Harbordale Elementary's boundary so as to encompass Victoria Park should also include Colee Hammock, Beverly Heights, and Sunrise Key Isles, given the close geographical proximity of these neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, amending Harbordale Elementary's boundary to include Victoria Park, Colee Hammock, Beverly Heights, and Sunrise Key Isles would benefit Harbordale Elementary by increasing the number of local students from nearby neighborhoods,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That the City Commission urges the School Board of Broward County, Florida, to amend the boundary of Harbordale Elementary School to include the neighborhoods of Victoria Park, Colee Hammock, Beverly Heights, and Sunrise Key Isles.

SECTION 2. That the City Clerk is directed to send a certified copy of this Resolution to the School Board of Broward County, Florida.

ADOPTED this the __ day of January, 2015.

Mayor
JOHN "JACK" P. SEILER

ATTEST:

City Clerk
JONDA K. JOSEPH