

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Pittman, Freeman and Gaffney, Jr.:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2025-77-A**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING VINCENT
7 TAYLOR FOR BEING NAMED THE 2025 VYSTAR DUVAL
8 COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND RECOGNIZING HIS
9 OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION AS A MATH
10 INSTRUCTOR AT CEDAR HILLS ELEMENTARY; PROVIDING
11 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
12

13 **WHEREAS,** Vincent Taylor, a math teacher and instructional
14 coach at Cedar Hills Elementary School, was selected by the
15 Jacksonville Public Education Fund to receive the 2025 VyStar Duval
16 County Teacher of the Year for his dedication to education and his
17 ability to motivate and inspire students to excel academically and
18 personally; and

19 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Taylor has dedicated 28 years of his life to
20 teaching and has made a lasting impact on students through his
21 innovative and creative approach to teaching and learning; and

22 **WHEREAS,** he holds a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education
23 from the University of North Florida and a Master's degree in
24 Curriculum & Instruction from the University of Florida,
25 demonstrating his commitment to academic and professional excellence;
26 and

27 **WHEREAS,** Vincent Taylor is a prolific author and publisher who
28 has written 10 children's books, including the "Cornbread" series,
29 as well as a professional development book titled "*If Instruction
30 Isn't Engaging, I Quit!*" aimed at improving teaching practices and

1 inspiring educators; and

2 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Taylor has created the "Rhythmic Reading with
3 Rap" series using hip-hop to help students learn reading fundamentals
4 through music and art; and he produced and developed the song "**I AM A**
5 **TEACHER,**" to support the great work of people who chose this
6 profession, and the song has become a viral sensation gaining
7 thousands of views on social media; and

8 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Taylor has founded impactful programs such as The
9 Young Gentlemen Group, which has evolved into The Young Ladies &
10 Young Gentlemen Club, a school-based mentorship initiative designed
11 to support emerging leaders at the school, and TriEclipse Publishing,
12 Inc., which extends his educational influence beyond the classroom;
13 and

14 **WHEREAS,** his expertise has been showcased at numerous
15 national conferences and professional development sessions, where he
16 has trained over 50,000 educators across the United States; and

17 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Taylor's accomplishments include receiving the
18 2022 NAACP Olivia Gay-Davis Award, the 2021 Literacy Legacy Award,
19 and mayoral recognition in 2014 for his mentorship program,
20 highlighting his significant contributions to education and the
21 Jacksonville community; and

22 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Taylor has been an avid Karate enthusiast for
23 more than 40 years, being mentored by Sensei Jerry Williamson and
24 teaching youth at the Police Athletic League, and has earned the
25 coveted Black Belt in Shotokan Karate; and

26 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Taylor has been married to his loving wife Dina
27 Frasier Taylor for over 28 years; and they have two daughters JaMone
28 and JaNiya, who have all made his love for learning and literacy a
29 family affair in all that they do; now therefore

30 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

31 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commends

1 Vincent Taylor for being named the 2025 VyStar Duval County Teacher
2 of the Year, celebrating 28 years of outstanding service in education,
3 and recognizing his invaluable contributions to Cedar Hills
4 Elementary School and the Jacksonville community.

5 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
6 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
7 without the Mayor's signature.

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9 Form Approved:

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11 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

12 Office of General Counsel

13 Legislation Prepared By: Nayeli Jimenez, City Council Research

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