

1 Introduced by Council Member Freeman:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2021-128**

5 A RESOLUTION HONORING THE RIVER CITY SCIENCE
6 ACADEMY MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL AND MANDARIN SCHOOL
7 FOR THEIR STATE SCHOOL OF CHARACTER
8 DESIGNATION, PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, River City Science Academy (RCSA) is a tuition-free,
11 public charter school located in Duval County in Jacksonville,
12 Florida. RCSA was founded in 2007 and currently serves grades K -
13 12 through 4 different locations. RCSA offers an emphasis on STEM
14 education. The school provides strong academics and extra-
15 curricular programs. It is one of the first successful charter
16 schools in Duval County, being the first to receive an A grade and
17 high-performing status from the Florida Department of Education;
18 and

19 **WHEREAS**, River City Science Academy's mission is to ensure all
20 students reach their maximum potential in a diverse, structured,
21 and nurturing environment and to prepare students for a future in
22 the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math; and

23 **WHEREAS**, River City Science Academy's model is anchored in the
24 core values of respect, compassion, self-confidence, and
25 accountability. RCSA engages students of all ages in Character
26 Education and is recognized through Character.org, a national
27 nonprofit based in Washington, D.C. It works with communities
28 including organizations, schools, families, workplaces, and sports
29 to inspire, educate, and empower people to be ethical and
30 compassionate citizens; and

1 **WHEREAS**, River City Science Academy's Middle-High and Mandarin
2 campuses are recognized as the first schools in Duval County to
3 receive the honorable designation of State Schools of Character for
4 their dedicated focus on cultivating important character traits in
5 students and addressing their social-emotional needs. In 2021,
6 Character.org designated 76 schools and 1 district as State Schools
7 of Character; and

8 **WHEREAS**, River City Science Academy's Middle-High and Mandarin
9 campuses engage in school-wide Character Education programs with a
10 mission to educate, inspire, and empower people of all ages to be
11 ethical and compassionate citizens; and

12 **WHEREAS**, it is further recognized that River City Science
13 Academy's Middle-High and Mandarin campuses work together with
14 educators and parents to ensure that every child understands, cares
15 about, and consistently practices the core values that form the
16 heart of each family and school: Respect, Compassion, Self-
17 Confidence, and Accountability; now therefore

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

19 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors River
20 City Science Academy Middle-High School and Mandarin School for
21 their State School of Character designation and extend to all those
22 associated with the school sincere best wishes for continued
23 success.

24 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
25 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
26 without the Mayor's signature.

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28 Form Approved:

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30 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

31 Office of General Counsel

1 Legislation Prepared By: Richard Distel, City Council Research

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