

1 Introduced by Council Member Freeman & Co-Sponsored by Council  
2 Members Becton, Morgan, DeFoor, Carlucci, Newby, Pittman, Boylan,  
3 Priestly Jackson, Dennis and Gaffney:  
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6 **RESOLUTION 2021-128-A**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING THE RIVER CITY SCIENCE  
8 ACADEMY MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL AND MANDARIN SCHOOL  
9 FOR THEIR STATE SCHOOL OF CHARACTER  
10 DESIGNATION, PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
11

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

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

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

1 to inspire, educate, and empower people to be ethical and  
2 compassionate citizens; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 Form Approved:

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31 /s/ Margaret M. Sidman

1 Office of General Counsel

2 Legislation Prepared By: Richard Distel, City Council Research

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