

## **A RESOLUTION HONORING COACH WILLIAM “WOLF” NELSON**

**WHEREAS**, Farragut Career Academy is officially naming their gym after Coach William “Wolf” Nelson, who coached at Farragut high school for 41 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Coach Nelson attended Farragut starting in 1974 and throughout high school he participated in the chess club and was considered one of the top chess players in the City at the time; and

**WHEREAS**, He honed his basketball skills at a youth center, and although he was not good enough to play varsity, he considered himself “a student of the game”; and

**WHEREAS**, After graduating from Farragut in 1978, he attended UIC and Northeastern to study electrical engineering and math, but his heart never really left Farragut; and

**WHEREAS**, While still attending college, Coach Nelson returned to Farragut to be an assistant coach for the freshman and sophomore basketball team and he began his career 6 years later teaching math at Farragut, later becoming the head coach for the boys’ varsity basketball team; and

**WHEREAS**, Coach Nelson amassed 541 wins in 33 years as varsity head coach, coached 21 All-City players, 11 All-State players, and 3 McDonalds All-Americans, as well as famously coaching the 1994-95 basketball team that consisted of top players Ronnie Fields, Michael Wright, and NBA Hall of Famer Kevin “Big Ticket” Garnett; and

**WHEREAS**, Although officially retired, Coach Nelson is still seen in Farragut’s halls today, often coming back as a guest teacher; and

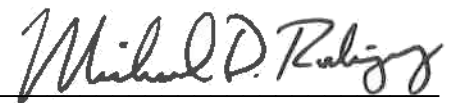
**WHEREAS**, Coach Nelson pushed all of his students and players to be the best version of themselves, both academically and on the court; and

**WHEREAS**, Coach Nelson has referred to himself as a “teacher who became a coach” and says his greatest accomplishment is watching his players and students leave Farragut with a high school diploma; and

**WHEREAS**, As a 2024 inductee into the Chicago Public League Hall of Fame, the Public League and the whole West side of Chicago will miss him dearly; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, The City of Chicago hereby congratulates Coach William “Wolf” Nelson on this tremendous honor and expresses its appreciation for his dedication to Farragut Career Academy and Public League basketball; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That suitable copies of this resolution be presented to Coach William “Wolf” Nelson.



MICHAEL D. RODRIGUEZ  
Alderman, 22nd Ward