

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 38
HONORING MRS. TONI COLE**

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of this Honorable Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis of the retirement of Mrs. Toni Cole; and

WHEREAS, she is retiring from the St. Louis Public Schools (SLPS) after working as a teacher certified in Grades K-8 for over 43 years. She has an Education Specialist degree and a Masters in Special Education; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cole's calm spirit and nurturing voice drew many to her. Everyone admired how her quiet presence spoke volumes; and

WHEREAS, she worked at three different schools throughout the SLPS district where she spent most of her career. While being appreciated as an excellent expert educator, Mrs. Cole's teachings didn't stop inside of her classrooms; and

WHEREAS, she tutored at many of the schools she worked at after school hours, as well as served on various committees. Some of which she even served as the chairperson. The Black History Programs were her favorite; and

WHEREAS, from assisting her own students in re-inventing past inventions and learning about the inventors who changed the world, to teaching them different praise dances and other acts to showcase their hidden talents, Mrs. Cole played a vital role in every Black History Program she was part of; and

WHEREAS, in addition to spending time with her students, after school hours, Mrs. Cole believed that she still had time in her busy schedule to reach more youth. Finding this time, from only God knows where, Mrs. Cole tutored students throughout the city and county of Saint Louis as well as in her church Holy Trinity Baptist Church where she served as the First Lady for 17 years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cole also volunteered a significant amount her time to an outreach ministries held by her church and local community organizations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the many accomplishments of Mrs. Toni Cole, for her years of service to our community and by adoption of this Resolution we wish her well on her retirement. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented at a time and place and to those deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 11th day of June, 2021, by:
The Honorable Lisa Middlebrook, Alderwoman 2nd Ward
The Honorable Bill Stephens, Alderman 12th Ward

Adopted the 11th day of June, 2021, as attested by:

Terry Kennedy
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen