

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, **Unity Day** is the flagship event of National Bullying Prevention Month which was founded by the PACER National Bullying Prevention Center in 2006, and it is part of an awareness and educational campaign in communities throughout the nation during the month of October; and

WHEREAS, bullying is defined as behaviors by an individual aggressively using their “power” to target another individual with repeated, unwanted words or actions, hurting them physically and or emotionally, and is often described by students as making them feel less about who they are as a person, and they are more likely to acquire physical, emotional, and learning problems; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, bullied students have an increased risk of mental health issues such as depression or anxiety, and the National Center for Education Statistics has discovered that one in five children between the ages of 12 and 18 have been bullied during the school year, and The Anti-Defamation League has concluded that only 39% of high schoolers notify an adult or teacher of bullying; and

WHEREAS, the Academy Prep Center of Tampa is a private middle school founded in 2003, whose mission is to inspire and empower students qualifying for need-based scholarships to become future community leaders through a rigorous middle school program coupled with ongoing graduate support, and they are hosting **Unity Day** at Academy Prep Center of Tampa on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, to bring awareness about bullying and promote prosocial behaviors of kindness, acceptance of difference, and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa supports all efforts that benefit and enhance the development of children and contributes to their optimum emotional, physical and mental health.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, October 18, 2023, as

“UNITY DAY AT ACADEMY PREP CENTER OF TAMPA”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to support the eradication of bullying in our nation, promote kindness, and protect our children from all forms of harm.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 13th day of October 2023.



Jane Castor

Mayor