

Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, opening its doors in Tampa, Florida in the fall of 1915 under the leadership of Principal J.R. Monahan, Woodrow Wilson Junior High School, now **Woodrow Wilson Middle School** was named for the 28<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America, Thomas Woodrow Wilson who served from 1913 to 1921; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the school has expanded to accommodate the growing student population and teaching enhancements including adding wings to the original building on Swann Avenue, physical education and art buildings constructed, a lunchroom area allocated, a new band room, shop, auditorium, and media center which now includes computers for student use; and

WHEREAS, with its vision statement "The Woodrow Wilson Middle School staff will model a passion for learning and assist all students to develop personal and academic goals that include earning a high school credit during middle school," the institution has been committed to academic excellence from its early years, and it has outstanding and innovative programs including Student-Teacher Day whereby students prepare the lesson plans and instruct the classes, music and drama programs, community service projects and sports, and the school is proud of its traditional playing of the bugle with "The Morning Call" to begin the school day, and "The Evening Call" played just prior to dismissal; and

WHEREAS, the school's mission is "Woodrow Wilson Middle School students will be confident, goaloriented, and passionate about learning" and the faculty and staff are dedicated to providing the highest quality instruction, curriculum, and administration, and for its efforts the school has been recognized numerous times including receiving the Florida School Recognition Award for sustained and improved academic performance, and the National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award twice; and

**WHEREAS**, the historical institution has made an impact in the Tampa community for a century by educating, enriching, and preparing children for higher education and life's challenges, and many of the Wilson Middle School Bulldog graduates have gone on to be great leaders in the Tampa community, state of Florida, our nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of Woodrow Wilson Middle School's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the school is celebrating for 100 days including 100 Days of Service whereby students take part in community service projects, a *Time Capsule*, several *Pep Rallies*, showcasing of Wilson Middle School's history at the *Tampa History Center*, and *Through the Decades* dressing up by students representing the decades from the 1920's to the present, a *Writing and Art Competition* and a *5K Run/Walk at Al Lopez Park*.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Monday, February 2, 2015 as

## "WOODROW WILSON SCHOOL DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to offer congratulations to this historical school and thank Principal Colleen Vaverek Faucett, the teachers, staff, and students of Woodrow Wilson Middle School for their commitment to educational excellence.

OFFICE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR FLORIDA

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2015.

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