

Resolution Honoring Dr. Kenneth Fox, MD

Whereas, health inequity is one of the biggest issues within Chicago, requiring an aggressive commitment to supporting disinvested communities and families most affected by inequities; and

Whereas, education is one of the root causes of health outcomes, with significant opportunities to impact health equity; and

Whereas, Dr. Kenneth Fox, MD is a pediatrician who has spent his 30-year career working for health equity, especially by serving and advocating for children in underserved communities; and,

Whereas, Dr. Fox is a scholar who has written and lectured widely on cultural and social justice issues in health, with a focus on removing health-related barriers to learning; and

Whereas, Dr. Fox most recently served as Chief Medical Officer of the innovative dual appointment role between the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Chicago Public Schools (CPS) serving as the district's principal spokesperson on health issues and overseeing a wide portfolio of issues central to the health and wellbeing of students; and

Whereas, Dr. Fox in that capacity understood that good health is essential for good learning and that healthy students are more likely to attend school regularly and are better able to focus.

Whereas, Dr. Fox understood CPS has a significant opportunity to improve student performance by prioritizing student health and wellness and worked with CDPH to develop preventive health services to CPS students.

Whereas, Dr. Fox in that role championed the joint health programming between CDPH in the areas of oral health services, vision, bullying and teen dating violence prevention, sexually transmitted disease education and screening, and teen pregnancy prevention, among other priorities.

Whereas, Dr. Fox represented CPS on the Chicago Department of Public's Partnership for Health Chicago, the multi-sector body that conducted the City's community health assessment and developed Healthy Chicago 2025, Community Health Improvement Plan; and

Whereas, in that role, Dr. Fox championed and increased Medicaid enrollment among CPS students, ensuring they are connected to both insurance and a medical home; and

Whereas, prior to serving at CPS, Dr. Fox had an illustrious career that included work at Harvard Medical School, Boston University, Lurie Children's Hospital at Northwestern University, the University of Chicago, and Erie Family Health Center, as well as collaborations with Partners in Health and Physicians for Human Rights; now, therefore

Be it resolved that the Chicago Board of Health congratulates Dr. Fox on his retirement from the Chicago Public Schools and honors the lifetime he has spent serving children to advance health equity; and

Be it further resolved that the Chicago Board of Health, in recognition of Dr. Fox, rededicates itself to the goals of improving health equity and expanded access to health, goals championed by Dr. Fox.

Dated this 16th day of February 2022



Dr. Carolyn Lopez, MD
President, Chicago Board of Health