WHEREAS, inequities in schools have become an increasingly significant challenge in the United States and Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the majority of school-aged students are children of color and in Virginia, forty-five percent of public-school students qualify for subsidized meals; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that factors including, but not limited to, disability, race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status have a demonstrated history of impacting the educational opportunities provided to a student; and

WHEREAS, the promise of public education is for every child to be successful in school and life; and

WHEREAS, it is important for Virginia families, students, teachers, and school administrators to be aware of the diverse needs of learners, and to encourage discussion of the challenges as a school community; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia School Boards Association has established a Task Force on Students and Schools in Challenging Environments to make recommendations and to stay at the forefront of discussions on equity in Virginia schools; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that inequities in resources, including educational settings and buildings, supplies, and technology impede student learning;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved, the School Board of the City of Richmond and the school administration do hereby recognize March 2020 as Virginia School Boards Association EQUITY IN EDUCATION MONTH in our Commonwealth of Virginia, and the City of Richmond and encourage the citizens of Richmond and families of Richmond Public Schools to discuss educational equity, best practices, and programming in Richmond City Public Schools.

Linda Owen
Chairman
March 2, 2020

Jason Kamras
Superintendent