



*Resolution of Appreciation for the Service of*

# DAVID C. BURNHAM

**WHEREAS** David C. Burnham has served the children of Providence with commitment, dignity, passion, and integrity in his role as founding President of the Board of Trustees of Paul Cuffee School;

**WHEREAS** he, with Cyril Burke and a small group of dedicated volunteers, imagined a school where all students would be welcomed, cared for, and taught to succeed;

**WHEREAS** he worked tirelessly to secure space, name a founding head, raise funds, and spread word of the Paul Cuffee School throughout Providence, Rhode Island, and beyond;

**WHEREAS** he established on and among the Board of Trustees a culture of respect, service, and above all dedication to the education and well-being of Cuffee students and their families;

**WHEREAS** he personally recruited, mentored and supported Trustees, faculty, and staff who have made their own lasting contributions to the School, inspired by his example;

**WHEREAS** he brought the clarity of vision, steadiness of hand, and navigation skills of a true sailor to the work of Paul Cuffee School in fair weather and during the occasional squall, giving meaning and purpose to the school's maritime theme;

**WHEREAS** he always took enormous interest and pride in the accomplishments of Cuffee students, visiting each building regularly, offering insight and advice and imparting wisdom by his very presence;

**WHEREAS** in the thirteen years of the School's existence, nearly 1,000 students have been educated within its walls; successful expansion to middle and upper school levels has been planned and achieved; and dozens of graduates will seek higher education;

**WHEREAS** the School has been consistently hailed as a model of innovative educational practices and a deep commitment to social justice and equal opportunity;

**WHEREAS** he embodied and lived the spirit and values of Paul Cuffee the man in establishing and leading Paul Cuffee the school;

**WHEREAS** along with his equally wonderful wife Anne, no School could want for finer role models, benefactors, or citizens;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of Paul Cuffee School extends its most sincere and profound gratitude to David C. Burnham for his extraordinary contributions to Paul Cuffee School and the children of Providence, Rhode Island, and pledges to continue to support and steward the School in his honor and guided by the example he set.