

# Resolution No. 554-2020

**Council Member Conwell**

## AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Urging the Cleveland Metropolitan School District to change the name of Patrick Henry Middle School to Stephanie Tubbs Jones Middle School.

WHEREAS, Patrick Henry, known as one of this country's founding fathers was also a slaveholder; and

WHEREAS, when he died, Patrick Henry left his estates and his 67 slaves to be divided between his wife and his six sons; despite his various comments opposing the institution of slavery, Henry did not free any slaves; and

WHEREAS, Stephanie Tubbs Jones was the first African American woman from Ohio to be elected to Congress, representing the 11<sup>th</sup> congressional district from 1999 until her death in 2008; and

WHEREAS, prior to being elected to the House of Representatives, Tubbs Jones was elected a judge to the Cleveland Municipal Court in 1981 and to the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas between 1983-91; Tubbs Jones served as Cuyahoga County Prosecutor from 1991 to 1999, when she took her seat in Congress; and

WHEREAS, Stephanie Tubbs Jones was born in Cleveland and lived her entire life in the Glenville community – a true “Daughter of Glenville”; and

WHEREAS, Stephanie Tubbs Jones graduated from Collinwood High School and earned a bachelor's degree and law degree from Case Western Reserve University; and

WHEREAS, in this time of civil unrest because of continued racial injustices, it is also time to honor a person like Stephanie Tubbs Jones who strove for equity and social justice and was a role model for all Clevelanders, especially Black Clevelanders; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety, now, therefore,

### **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:**

**Section 1.** That this Council urges the Cleveland Metropolitan School District to change the name of Patrick Henry Middle School to Stephanie Tubbs Jones Middle School.

**Section 2.** That the Clerk of Council is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to Eric Gordon, CEO, Cleveland Metropolitan School District.

**Section 3.** That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

KC:rns  
7/15/2020

