

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, **George S. Middleton High School** opened its doors in East Tampa as the first high school for African Americans students in Hillsborough County in 1934, and it was named for the late George Schroeder Middleton, a well-known local humanitarian, businessman, and a strong supporter of public education; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, the desegregation plan of Hillsborough County closed the high school and formed Middleton Junior High School, however, due to the combined efforts and commitment of Middleton alumni and supporters in 2002, the Hillsborough County School Board rebuilt George S. Middleton High School, known as Middleton High School and home of the Tigers, on North 22nd Street, thirty-one years after it closed; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, Middleton High School has been committed to excellence and well-known for its outstanding curriculum including its Magnet School Programs, particularly in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), and the school has produced many distinguished graduates that have contributed greatly to the Tampa community, to the state of Florida, the nation and globally, and those individuals include City, County and State Representatives, as well as business and civic leaders; and

WHEREAS, Middleton High School has recognized the legacy of outstanding alumni and faculty with the naming of campus facilities for them including the *Abe Brown Stadium* in honor of the late Reverend Abraham Brown, a beloved Educator, Coach, prison Evangelist and Civic Leader, the *Fred Hearns Pavilion* named for Charles F. "Fred" Hearns, Middleton High School Alumni's first President, City of Tampa Community Affairs Director, Historian and Community Activist, the *James B. Green Agriculture and Science Building* for the late James B. Green, a Middleton Educator strongly dedicated to his students, and the *Theresa A. Manual Track* for the late Theresa Altameze Manuel, Physical Education Teacher, winning Coach and the first African American from Florida to represent the United States of America in the 1948 World Olympics; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa recognizes the many accomplishments of Middleton High School, its dedication to its motto *Where Family Comes First* and to providing quality education to the youth of the Tampa community that maximizes their potential, gives them the tools to be successful and enhances their lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim October 6, 2017 as

"GEORGE S. MIDDLETON HIGH SCHOOL LEGACY DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all residents to join me in congratulating Principal Dr. Kim Moore, students, faculty, staff, alumni and supporters on Middleton High School's legacy of excellence and in wishing them continued success.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 6th day of October, 2017.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

