



City of Cambridge

R-21.

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 26, 2006

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR SIMMONS
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
MAYOR REEVES
VICE MAYOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
COUNCILLOR KELLEY
COUNCILLOR MURPHY

WHEREAS: This City Council was deeply saddened at learning of the death of Mary Lou (Murphy) McGrath, former Superintendent of the Cambridge Public Schools, on June 23, 2006; and

WHEREAS: Mary Lou was a life-long Cantabrigian. She graduated from St. John's High School in 1951 and from Salem State College in 1955; and

WHEREAS: Mary Lou was the devoted wife of the late Joseph Murry McGrath; and

WHEREAS: Mary Lou began her career as a teacher in the Cambridge Public School Department in 1956. She became Coordinator of Primary Education in 1975; then Director of Elementary Education in 1978, Assistant Superintendent for Administration in 1987 and Acting Superintendent in 1988; and

WHEREAS: In December 1988 Mary Lou McGrath was appointed as the first woman Superintendent of the Cambridge Public School system; and

WHEREAS: Mary Lou's career in public education was highlighted by her involvement with creative solutions to education problems. She was a prime player in the Cambridge Voluntary Desegregation Plan, instrumental in the formation of various alternative programs, and in the forefront in introducing new technology into the Cambridge Public School system; and

WHEREAS: During her 41-year tenure, Mary Lou's efforts were recognized with numerous awards from educational, civic and private organizations. In 1999 she received an Honorary Doctorate degree from Lesley University; and

WHEREAS: After her retirement from her position as Superintendent in 1997, she continued her involvement in education as a Visiting Professor at Lesley University and as Co-Chair of the New England Superintendent's Leadership Council at Brown University; and

WHEREAS: Mary Lou's passing will leave a void in the lives of all her surviving friends and family, her siblings Lorraine Fouchette and her husband Charles, Charles Murphy and his wife Elizabeth, George Murphy and Joyce Altamore; her sister-in-law Linda Murphy; and her many nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS: Mary Lou will be sorely missed by all she touched and loved; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record extending its deepest sympathy to the family of Mary Lou McGrath at this time of such personal loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the McGrath family on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council June 26, 2006.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "D. Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

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WHEREAS: Mary Lou began her career as a teacher in the Cambridge Public School Department in 1956. She became Coordinator of Primary Education in 1975; then Director of Elementary Education in 1978, Assistant Superintendent for Administration in 1987 and Acting Superintendent in 1988; and

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WHEREAS: After her retirement from her position as Superintendent in _____, she continued her involvement in education as a professor at Lesley University _____; and

WHEREAS: Mary Lou's passing will leave a void in the lives of all her surviving friends and family, her siblings Lorraine Fouchette and her husband Charles, Charles Murphy and his wife Elizabeth, George Murphy and Joyce Altamore; her sister-in-law Linda Murphy; and her many nieces and nephews; and

RESOLUTION #21

Resolution on the death of former
Superintendent of Schools Mary
Lou (Murphy) McGrath.

**Councillor Sullivan, Councillor
Simmons, Councillor Galluccio,
Mayor Reeves, Vice Mayor
Toomey and entire membership**

**In City Council
June 26, 2006**

ORDER ADOPTED