RESOLUTION
TO AUTHORIZE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADVISORY PANEL TO ADDRESS THE MENTAL HEALTH EARLY ACTION ON CAMPUS ACT
OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS
DISTRICT WIDE

WHEREAS, on August 9, 2019, Public Act 101-0251, the Illinois Mental Health Early Action on Campus Act (MHEAC Act), was signed into law; and

WHEREAS, the MHEAC Act intends to address gaps in mental health services on college campuses across Illinois, including both 2-year and 4-year institutions, through training, peer support, and community-campus partnerships; and

WHEREAS, the MHEAC Act requires the designation of an expert panel to develop and implement policies and procedures that (i) advise students, faculty, and staff on the proper procedures for identifying and addressing the needs of students exhibiting symptoms of mental health conditions, (ii) promote understanding of the rules of Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to increase knowledge and understanding of student protections under the law, and (iii) provide training if appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the programs, services, and training under this act will (i) further identify students with mental health needs and connect them to services; (ii) increase access to support services on college campuses,(iii) increase access to clinical mental health services on college campuses and in the surrounding communities for college students; (iv) empower students through peer-to-peer support and training on identifying mental health needs and resources; and (v) reduce administrative policies that put an undue burden on students seeking leave for their mental health conditions through technical assistance and training; and

WHEREAS, the MHEAC Act will augment existing mental health offerings and supports at City Colleges of Chicago, including the Wellness Centers located at each of the seven colleges.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 508, Cook of County and State of Illinois, hereby authorizes the Office of Academic and Student Affairs to establish a panel comprised of mental health professionals, campus and district departments, faculty, and students pursuant to the requirements and duties outlined in the MHEAC Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Office of Academic and Student Affairs shall be responsible, to the extent required, for compliance with monitoring and reporting under the MHEAC Act.

December 5, 2019 - Office of Academic and Student Affairs