



Legislation Details (With Text)

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Enactment date:	9/30/2025	Enactment #:	564
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Title:	NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare September 27, 2025 to be "Fifth Avenue High Class of 1965 Day" in the City of Pittsburgh.		
Sponsors:	R. Daniel Lavelle, All Members		
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Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
9/30/2025	1	City Council	Adopted	Pass

WHEREAS, Fifth Avenue High School, formerly part of Central High School on Bedford and Fulton Streets, was built in 1894 and occupied by the Pittsburgh Public School System until 1976; and,

WHEREAS, the National Honor Society at Fifth Avenue High School was founded in 1921 under the direction of Dr. Edward S. Rynearson, principal of Fifth Avenue, with the Alpha Chapter beginning service in 1922; and,

WHEREAS, Fifth Avenue High School's dominance in athletics was legendary, as they accumulated championships in basketball, baseball, ice hockey, swimming, gymnastics, football, track and field and volleyball; and,

WHEREAS, the Fifth Avenue High class of 1965 consisted of 125 students, many of whom became friends in kindergarten and remain friends to this day, as former classmates look forward to return home every five years to visit the old and new landmarks to attend their class reunion celebrations; and,

WHEREAS, graduates from Fifth Avenue High class of 1965 went on to establish careers in public service, clergy, community organizing, law enforcement, school administration, education and entertainment, with musicians, skilled tradesmen, public transit operators, entrepreneurs, homemakers and homecare workers among the many roles taken on by the graduates; and,

WHEREAS, historic figures among the class of 1965 include Mitchell Brown, who was instrumental in the organization of the Freedom House ambulance service, Sydney McClanahan, who was recognized for his political service in Michigan, and William Banks, a musician and protégé of Georgie Benson who created a band with the Pittsburgh Courier deemed the longest running band in the tri-state area in 2005; and,

WHEREAS, this year, the Fifth Avenue High class of 1965 will reunited from September 27-28 to celebrate their 60th reunion and reflect upon the school's proud history and impact on the Lower Hill District community; and,

WHEREAS, the celebration on Saturday will begin will begin with a special interactive dinner dance program at the Double Tree by Hilton in Downtown Pittsburgh, and the alumni group will be welcomed to attend the morning service at the neighborhood Ebenezer Baptist Church on Sunday, a service which will be followed by a picnic at Schenley Park;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare September 27, 2025 to be ***“Fifth Avenue High Class of 1965 Day”*** in the City of Pittsburgh.