Joint statement from Alderman Nik Kovac, Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs, Alderman José G. Pérez and Alderman Ashanti Hamilton

October 1, 2012

Today’s announcement that Pierce Elementary School and La Escuela Fratney have been chosen as GE Foundation Demonstration Schools is great news for the Riverwest neighborhood and for Milwaukee Public Schools.

That these two gems are a point of pride for parents and students has long been common knowledge for neighbors. We welcome the recognition from the school district, and look forward to having the innovative teachers and practices of our neighborhood schools showcased to all Milwaukee Public Schools, as well as the grant funding that will help create new teaching positions at the schools and more planning time for the staff.

Rigorous standards and the resources to meet and exceed those standards are the keys to helping students excel in college, the workforce and the global marketplace. We’re very grateful to GE for helping provide our students with this opportunity.

Great neighborhoods can't happen without great schools, and democracy can't work unless its future citizens can learn. As proud former students of MPS, we want to keep open that door that we once walked through.

-30-