

Betsy H. Kaplan, Member

**SUBJECT: THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
NAME A SCHOOL FACILITY IN HONOR OF DAVID LAWRENCE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH SCHOOL BOARD RULE 6GX13- 7E-1.02**

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

David Lawrence retired in 1999 as publisher of the Miami Herald to work in the area of early childhood development and readiness. He is president of the Early Childhood Initiative Foundation and "University Scholar for Early Childhood Development and Readiness" at the University of Florida. In 2002 he led the successful campaign for the Children's Trust, a dedicated source of early intervention and prevention funding for children in Miami-Dade; he now is its chair. Named by Governor Jeb Bush to the Florida Partnership for School Readiness, he chaired that board for two terms. He is a board member of the Foundation for Child Development in New York and the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation in Ypsilanti, Michigan. In 2002-2003 he chaired the Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel on Child Protection. In 2002, he was a key figure in passage of the statewide constitutional amendment that will provide high quality pre-K availability for all four year olds beginning in the school year 2005. He served on the UPK Advisory Council that made recommendations in 2003 to the State Board of Education and the Legislature. In 2004 he served as the Governor's special assistant for UPK implementation to help establish a high-quality program in Florida. He is a board member and former chair of the Miami-Dade School Readiness Coalition.

Mr. Lawrence has been working diligently on his movement, a movement on behalf of all children in their early childhood years. It speaks to fairness as do the civil rights and feminist movements. He has used his knowledge of the media to launch a multimedia campaign aimed at every facet of the community, parents, parents to be, business leaders, politicians; and, further, he has challenged the media to participate and to be a part of the solution.

Naming a school facility after Mr. David Lawrence Jr. would honor a civic leader who has impacted our children and youth through his dedication and service.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. BETSY H. KAPLAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida name a school facility in honor of David Lawrence Jr. in accordance with School Board rule 6Gx13- 7E 1.02