

Mr. Agustin J. Barrera

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO CONVENE THE EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES NAMING COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THE RENAMING OF SOUTH MIAMI MIDDLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL TO BETSY H. KAPLAN MIDDLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

**COMMITTEE:       FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION REFORM**

Since 1988, when first elected to the Miami-Dade County School Board, Ms. Betsy H. Kaplan has served with dignity and grace, representing the needs of the entire Miami-Dade community. Among Ms. Kaplan's many accomplishments, has been that of a stalwart champion of the role of the arts in education and concomitant student achievement. Consequently, Miami-Dade County Public Schools is nationally-renowned for its extensive and innovative arts education programs and the positive impact these initiatives have had on student achievement.

In recognition of Ms. Betsy H. Kaplan's lasting and profound contributions to our entire school district, in particular its arts education programs, it is a befitting tribute to name a school in her honor. As South Miami Middle Community School has implemented a successful and flourishing talent magnet program since 1986, this school would be a suitable candidate to consider renaming in Ms. Kaplan's honor. Consequently, it is appropriate that the School Board initiate action for the school community to begin consideration of this tribute.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
AGUSTIN J. BARRERA:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida direct the Superintendent to convene the Educational Facilities Naming Committee, pursuant to School Board Rule 6Gx13- 7E-1.02, Educational Facilities—Naming, to consider the renaming of South Miami Middle Community School to Betsy H. Kaplan Middle Community School.