

Mr. Renier Diaz de la Portilla, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 07-28 OF THE
 SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
 RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS OF JEFFREY
 MILLER TO MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

**STRATEGIC PLAN: INCREASE STUDENT EXPOSURE AND UNDERSTANDING OF
 GLOBAL ISSUES AND ECONOMY**

As a Council for Educational Change Board Member, Jeffrey Miller has focused his educational partnership work in the Miami-Dade School District, through the Council's PASS® model and program.

Presently Jeffrey Miller, the President and CEO of Weeks Gas and Generators, supports two PASS models at Hialeah Elementary and one at Holmes Elementary. He has contributed more than \$300,000 for these models. Even more significant is the time that Mr. Miller spends at both schools where he has become a true member of their school-family communities. PASS teams a CEO, Principal, and Education Coach to work on school improvement and raising student achievement. The CEO helps the Principal empower his or her leadership skills, using strategies that made the business leader successful, infusing them in school improvement operations.

Mr. Miller is in his third year of partnership with Hialeah Elementary, working with Principal Carolina Naveiras. Through the PASS model, he has funded incentives and rewards for performance; a computer lab for students, parents and community; and a Parent Academy to motivate increased and more meaningful parent involvement. The focus is on helping parents help their students succeed academically. Mr. Miller has also enlisted the help of his entire Weeks Gas staff, including managerial leaders, to volunteer at the school. He sponsors and attends a monthly celebration and award events for students, rewarding academic performance, attendance and positive behavior. The computer lab not only helps improve the technology skills of parents and students, it also has a full range of software to help students improve academically.

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Some positive results from Mr. Miller's PASS work at Hialeah include:

- Volunteerism increased 150%
- Weeks Gas employees log over 300 volunteer hours at the school per year
- Increased instructional, technological and leadership skills of staff
- Decrease in student discipline referrals by 65%
- Increased student attendance
- Increased parent involvement--outpacing last year's by about 100 hours
- Approximately 30% of the PASS dollars went for incentives and rewards for teachers and staff, based on increased student achievement
- Student performance analysis and application by classroom instruction was prioritized, with a reported 50% increased use of this data by staff

The PASS model at Holmes Elementary is Mr. Miller's latest undertaking, now in its first year. To launch the program, Mr. Miller recently hosted a community and school-wide celebration for 700 plus attendees —“There's No Place Like Holmes”--- including festivities for the students. He is working with Principal Dahlia Gonzalez to enhance school improvement efforts. One of the first goals is to increase parent involvement and active PTA membership.

In addition to his hands-on work with the schools and cooperation with district leadership, Mr. Miller is celebrated for his ability to outreach and coalesce school, community and business as a united force for students, and by extension, community betterment. One example: he has enlisted the Miami Heat and Nike to support Holmes. He is a hands-on leader who invests in the future of every student in the schools where he partners. He takes time to get to know and appreciate the students as well. Mr. Miller recently took 22 Holmes students to a Heat game, where they sat in a sky box and mingled with Miami Heat players and celebrities. He also attends school events, meetings and works side-by-side with the teachers and staff at both of the schools.

Among his numerous honors and awards, Mr. Miller was the winner of the 2006 Miami-Dade Schools Exemplary Business Partner of the Year Award. He was also honored for his outstanding contributions to Miami-Dade educational partnership at the recent Florida Commissioner of Education's Business Recognition Awards. He has also been honored by the Hialeah Mayor's Office for his work.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MR. RENIER DIAZ DE LA PORTILLA: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approves Resolution No. 07-28 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizes Jeffrey Miller for his outstanding contributions to Miami-Dade Public Schools

**RESOLUTION NO. 07-28
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING JEFFREY MILLER FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, as one of its board members, Mr. Jeffrey Miller has been extremely generous in his financial contributions and volunteer hours to the Council for Educational Change's PASS model and program; and

WHEREAS, as Chief Executive Officer and President of Weeks Gas and Generators, Mr. Jeffrey Miller has been a loyal supporter of PASS models at both Hialeah and Holmes Elementary Schools spending countless hours, especially in participating in school-family relations and activities; and

WHEREAS, as a prominent member of Miami-Dade's corporate leadership, Mr. Miller effectively teams up with one of our principals, Carolina Naveiras of Hialeah Elementary School, in providing and sharing with her a fair and balanced organizational assessment of her performance in school business operations and increasing academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, by sharing his valuable time and experience, Mr. Miller is providing the school principal with innovative leadership skills to work out strategies that can be effectively used in the school's day-to-day operations; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his time and financial contributions, Mr. Miller has enlisted the support and active participation of his staff as capable volunteers at the school, and

WHEREAS, through his commitment and dedication to our school district, Mr. Miller has provided an admirable example to other CEOs in the community encouraging them to step forward and participate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Miami-Dade County Public Schools honors Mr. Jeffrey Miller for his commitment and personal generosity.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this sixteenth day of May, A.D. 2007

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY