

Dr. Wilbert "Tee" Holloway, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 08-35 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING BRIA BROWN WHO HAS BEEN NAMED FLORIDA'S TOP MIDDLE LEVEL YOUTH VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AND A STATE HONOREE IN THE 2008 PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARDS PROGRAM**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT**

**STRATEGIC PLAN: DEVELOP OUR STUDENTS SO THEY ARE ABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPETE IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY**

Bria Brown, an eighth grade student at North Dade Middle School, was selected from among 4,500 youth nationwide to receive the 2008 Prudential Spirit of Community Award, a nationwide program honoring young people for outstanding acts of volunteerism. Bria represents the state of Florida as the top middle level honoree.

Diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer at age six, Bria began a program delivering teddy bears to young cancer patients in the hospital and at their homes. After her disease went into remission, Bria wanted to honor the memory of 17 fellow cancer patients she had met in the hospital who did not survive. She began volunteering for the American Cancer Society as honorary chair of the local Relay for Life fundraiser and as an advocate for cancer research. Wanting to make an even greater impact, Bria began to recruit her friends, classmates and members of her Girl Scout troop to help her conduct a teddy bear drive in her community. Before every teddy bear delivery, Bria finds out a little about the recipients and personalizes each bear.

In May, Bria will travel to Washington, D.C. to join other state honorees for a special recognition. She will receive a \$1,000 award, an engraved silver medallion and will also be considered for one of ten national awards. Bria also qualifies for the President's Volunteer Service Award which recognizes Americans of all ages who have volunteered significant time to serve their communities and their country.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards represents the United States' largest youth recognition program based on volunteer service. The program is part of a broad youth-service initiative by Prudential that includes a youth leadership training program administered by the Points of Light & Hands On Network. Students were selected for the prestigious national award using criteria such as personal initiative and growth, creativity, effort, and impact.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**DR. WILBERT "TEE" HOLLOWAY:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida approve Resolution No. 08-35, recognizing Bria Brown who has been named Florida's top middle level Youth Volunteer of the Year and a State Honoree in The 2008 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Program.

**RESOLUTION NO. 08-35**  
**OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING BRIA BROWN WHO HAS BEEN NAMED FLORIDA'S TOP MIDDLE LEVEL YOUTH VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AND A STATE HONOREE IN THE 2008 PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARDS PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, Bria Brown, an eighth grade student at North Dade Middle School, was selected from among 4,500 youth nationwide to receive The 2008 Prudential Spirit of Community Award, a nationwide program honoring young people for outstanding acts of volunteerism; and

**WHEREAS**, Bria represents the state of Florida as the top middle level honoree; and

**WHEREAS**, Bria, a bone cancer survivor, began a program delivering teddy bears to young cancer patients in the hospital and at their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, wanting to make an even greater impact, Bria began to recruit her friends, classmates and members of her Girl Scout troop to help her conduct a teddy bear drive in her community; and

**WHEREAS**, a volunteer with the American Cancer Society, Bria serves as the honorary chair of the local Relay for Life fundraiser and as an advocate for cancer research; and

**WHEREAS**, Bria will travel to Washington, D.C. in May to join other State Honorees who will each be presented with of a \$1,000 award and an engraved silver medallion. Each of the State Honorees will also be considered for one of ten national awards; and

**WHEREAS**, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards represent the United States' largest youth recognition program based on volunteer service;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida approve Resolution No. 08-35, recognizing Bria Brown who has been named Florida's top middle level Youth Volunteer of the Year and a State Honoree in The 2008 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Program.

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

**Presented this sixteenth day of April, A.D. 2008**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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SECRETARY