

Ms. Ana Rivas Logan, Board Member

**SUBJECT:                   REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 09-108 OF  
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
PROMOTING GREEN SCHOOLS**

**COMMITTEE:               INSTRUCTIONAL       EXCELLENCE       AND       COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT  
STRATEGIC PLAN:       IMPROVE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES**

Years of deteriorating school infrastructures and poor indoor environmental quality, which threaten the health and well-being and achievement of students and staff, have led to a new movement in school construction. Green schools are defined as school buildings or facilities that create a healthy environment that is conducive to learning while saving energy, resources and money.

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is leading the movement to build green schools. The non-profit organization is comprised of every sector of the building industry to promote building healthy facilities that are profitable and environmentally responsible. It currently has 13,000 member organizations and 75 regional chapters.

USGBC's rating system for green schools is LEED for Schools (Leadership in Energy and Environment Design). The LEED for Schools rating system emphasizes indoor air quality, classroom acoustics, energy efficiency, master planning, water conservation, and mold prevention. LEED certification is achieved by providing third-party verification that the building is designed and operated as intended.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools supports the green schools movement with the construction of the district's first green school - TERRA Environmental Research Institute. TERRA is a shining example of the district's commitment to eco-friendly practices. The new magnet school's innovations, include utilizing the condensation from the air conditioning units to water plants, water faucets on 20-second timers, bathroom facilities that use less water and lights on motion sensors. Eco-friendly principles from the school will also be incorporated into the school's curriculum.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
MS. ANA RIVAS LOGAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-108 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, promoting green schools.

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-108  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
PROMOTING GREEN SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS**, green schools are defined as school buildings or facilities that create a healthy environment that is conducive to learning while saving energy, resources and money; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), a leader in the green schools movement, is comprised of every sector of the building industry to promote building healthy facilities that are profitable and environmentally responsible; and

**WHEREAS**, USGBC's rating system for green schools is LEED for Schools (Leadership in Energy and Environment Design) and emphasizes indoor air quality, classroom acoustics, energy efficiency, master planning, water conservation, and mold prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County Public Schools supports the green schools movement with the construction of the district's first green school - TERRA Environmental Research Institute; and

**WHEREAS**, the new magnet school's innovations, include utilizing the condensation from the air conditioning units to water plants, water faucets on 20-second timers, bathroom facilities that use less water and lights on motion sensors. Eco-friendly principles from the school will also be incorporated into the school's curriculum;

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

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-108 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, promoting green schools.

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

**Presented this ninth day of September, A.D. 2009**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary