

Dr. Solomon C. Stinson, Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 10-005 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING MS. LOIS LEE AS A RECIPIENT OF THE DR. CARLO RODRIGUEZ CHAMPION OF SCHOOL CHOICE AWARD AND FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DISTRICT

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: SCHOOL/DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

Ms. Lois Lee, District Director, Schools of Choice and Parental Options, was the recipient of the Dr. Carlo Rodriguez Champion of School Choice Award presented to her on September 15, 2009 by the State Board of Education. She was one of two individuals selected annually to receive this distinguished award for her contributions to the school choice programs. The award is named after Dr. Carlo Rodriguez, formerly an administrator over charter schools who passed away, in honor of his contributions to the choice programs.

Additionally, Ms. Lee has served the students, parents, and families of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) for 40 years and is now retiring, capping a career distinguished by dedication and honor. A veteran school educator, Ms. Lee has held many leadership positions throughout her career with the District. She began her career with M-DCPS in 1970 and has served as a teacher, curriculum coordinator, education specialist, administrative assistant to a Member of the School Board, supervisor, director, executive director and District director. Throughout her career, Ms. Lee earned a Master of Arts degree in Early Childhood Special Education from the University of Miami, a Master of Arts degree in Elementary Education from Nova Southeastern University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education from Southern University in Baton Rouge.

Through her work with the District, Ms. Lee has assisted schools in developing and implementing research-based K-12 instructional initiatives, served as a presenter for professional development activities, conferences, and conventions, directed the monitoring of curriculum implementation and evaluation of school choice programs, and directed the implementation of the federally mandated No Child Left Behind Choice Transportation Program. In addition, Ms. Lee prepared proposals for federal grant funding to support program designs and theme-based school models and she served on grant writing teams resulting in \$50 million dollars to the District.

Ms. Lee has stellar educational insight. Her skills in the art of teaching; her inherent capacity to conceive, develop and implement distinctive programs that challenge students, and her personal integrity and her ability to empower staff to make her vision a reality, are the exemplar foundations and professional components that make her the champion of ensuring all our students have the opportunity “to be the best they can be in whatever educational environment they choose.” She is the ultimate learner who has never stopped learning; the teacher who is constantly teaching; the activist who is aware of the inequities of educational settings and the one committed to being the catalyst for change.

Moreover, Ms. Lee has received several awards for her accomplishments including the Outstanding Labor Activist from the A. Philip Randolph Institute, Black Labor Activist of the Year from the Coalition of Black Trade Unionist, and Outstanding Community Activist from the National Pan Hellenic Council. In addition, she has been honored as Outstanding Citizen of the Year by the North Dade Chamber of Commerce, Educator of the Year by Florida International University, Building Steward of the Year by The United Teachers of Dade, and she was first runner-up for Miami-Dade County Teacher of the Year.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. SOLOMON C. STINSON:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 10-005 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ms. Lois Lee as a recipient of the Dr. Carlo Rodriguez Champion of School Choice Award and for her contributions to the District.

**RESOLUTION NO. 10-005
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING MS. LOIS LEE AS A RECIPIENT OF THE DR. CARLO RODRIGUEZ
CHAMPION OF SCHOOL CHOICE AWARD AND FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, Ms. Lois Lee, District Director, Schools of Choice and Parental Options, was the recipient of the Dr. Carlo Rodriguez Champion of School Choice Award; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lois Lee, District Director, Schools of Choice and Parental Options, has served the students, parents, and families of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) for 40 years and is now retiring, capping a career distinguished by dedication and honor; and

WHEREAS, a veteran school educator, Ms. Lee has held many leadership positions throughout her career with the District, including teacher, curriculum coordinator, education specialist, administrative assistant to a Member of the School Board, supervisor, director, executive director and District director; and

WHEREAS, through her work with the District, Ms. Lee has assisted schools in developing and implementing research-based K-12 instructional initiatives, served as a presenter for professional development activities and conferences and conventions, directed the monitoring of curriculum implementation and evaluation of school choice programs, and directed the implementation of the federally mandated No Child Left Behind Choice Transportation Program; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lee's skills in the art of teaching; her inherent capacity to conceive, develop and implement distinctive programs that challenge students, and her personal integrity and her ability to empower staff to make her vision a reality, are the exemplar foundations and professional components that make her the champion of ensuring all our students have the opportunity "to be the best they can be in whatever educational environment they choose"; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lee has received several awards for her accomplishments including the Outstanding Labor Activist from the A. Philip Randolph Institute, Black Labor Activist of the Year from the Coalition of Black Trade Unionist, and Outstanding Community Activist from the National Pan Hellenic Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 10-005 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ms. Lois Lee as a recipient of the Dr. Carlo Rodriguez Champion of School Choice Award and her contributions to the District

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

Presented this tenth day of February, A.D. 2010

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary