

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 10-042 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING DR. SHARON E. SHAFFER FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Dr. Sharon E. Shaffer is the Founding Director of the Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center and currently provides leadership for the school and the educational outreach program. The Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center (SEEC), an educational program located within the Smithsonian museum complex, offers innovative training programs for classroom educators and museum professionals interested in using objects and works of art to teach. Dr. Shaffer is recognized internationally for her expertise in museum pedagogy, learning theory, early childhood education, and arts-integration. The hallmark of her work is blending theory and practice, modeling constructivist strategies and critical thinking techniques throughout training. Dr. Shaffer engages educators in reflection on educational practice and developing an understanding of the learning process.

As the Smithsonian Institution's model in museum-based education for young children, the SEEC is recognized for its expertise in early childhood education, its knowledge of arts-integration and museum methodology, and for its role as a museum school. With more than twenty years of experience, the SEEC program is a blend of theory and practice that is based on cutting edge research and current thought in learning theory. Practitioners from cultural institutions and schools around the world visit the SEEC to study and learn about early learning in museums.

In June 2006, Dr. Shaffer began her work with staff at Southside Elementary School and Shenandoah Middle School, Florida's first museum magnet schools, funded by a U.S. Department of Education Magnet Schools Assistance Program grant. Through her guidance and direction, SEEC educators developed experiential, interactive training sessions that engaged participants in intellectual exploration of museum-based strategies with the purpose of nurturing active learning in the classroom and museums. This collaboration with Miami-Dade County Public Schools was extended in June 2008 to include museum magnet staff at W.J. Bryan Elementary School, North Miami Middle School, and North Miami Senior High School.

ACTION PROPOSED BY VICE CHAIR PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 10-042 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Dr. Sharon E. Shaffer for her contributions to Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

**RESOLUTION NO. 010-042
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING DR. SHARON E. SHAFFER FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, Dr. Sharon E. Shaffer, Founding Director of the Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center (SEEC), is recognized internationally for her expertise in museum pedagogy, learning theory, early childhood education, and arts-integration; and

WHEREAS, the Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center, an educational program located within the Smithsonian museum complex, offers innovative training programs for classroom educators and museum professionals interested in using objects and works of art to teach; and

WHEREAS, in June 2006, Dr. Shaffer began her work with staff at Southside Elementary School and Shenandoah Middle School, Florida's first museum magnet schools; and

WHEREAS, through her guidance and direction, SEEC educators developed experiential, interactive training sessions that engaged participants in intellectual exploration of museum-based strategies with the purpose of nurturing active learning in the classroom and museums; and

WHEREAS, this collaboration with Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) was extended in June 2008 to include museum magnet staff at W.J. Bryan Elementary School, North Miami Middle School, and North Miami Senior High School; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends Dr. Shaffer for her commitment and dedication to the students, parents, and families of M-DCPS;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 10-042 The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Dr. Sharon E. Shaffer for her contributions to Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

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

Presented this twelfth day of May, A.D. 2010

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary