

Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Board Member

**SUBJECT:                   REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 10-070 OF THE  
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING GULFSTREAM PLAYGROUND PARTNERSHIPS**

**COMMITTEE:               INSTRUCTIONAL       EXCELLENCE       AND       COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC  
FRAMEWORK:             STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

On June 12, 2010, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at Gulfstream Elementary School to commemorate the opening of a new playground. The playground is the result of the collaborative efforts between Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, and KABOOM!, a national non-profit dedicated to building play spaces. The project's goal was to provide the school's students with a fully accessible play environment to positively impact social, emotional, cognitive and physical development. Gulfstream Elementary School serves more than 600 students in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade.

There were several individuals and organizations instrumental to the success of the project, including Principal Susan Lyle, teachers Maria Estevan and Michelle Bigenho and the faculty and staff at Gulfstream Elementary School; Kalex Construction and its subcontractors; the Cutler Bay Business Association; the Gulfstream Elementary School PTA, and M-DCPS employees Francis Hoar, David Warner, Alyce Neji, and Richard Dykes.

Lazaro Villar, project manager with Kalex Construction, has been working with the school for several months to put together a package to develop and build the new playground. Also assisting in this endeavor were Paul Smith and Christopher Orama from Kalex Construction, Rick Ruiz, president of Ruiz Trans Development Corp., Roberto Montenegro, president of R. Montenegro, Inc., Rodrigo Mazuera, project architect with Avart, Ammann & Whitney, Inc., and the Carlson Fence Company.

Bill Meiklejohn with the Cutler Bay Business Association assisted in securing donations and networking with other community organizations to get necessary supplies. Maria Estevan and Michelle Bigenho served as playground co-chairmen and coordinated the effort, including filling out the necessary grant applications and organizing fundraising events. The Gulfstream Elementary School PTA also assisted in raising funds for the project.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends the many individuals and organizations that came together to support this worthwhile endeavor so that the students of Gulfstream Elementary School enjoy the playground for years to come.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
DR. LAWRENCE S. FELDMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 10-070 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Gulfstream Playground partnerships.

**RESOLUTION NO. 10-070  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING GULFSTREAM PLAYGROUND PARTNERSHIPS**

**WHEREAS**, on June 12, 2010, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Gulfstream Elementary School to commemorate the opening of a new playground; and

**WHEREAS**, the playground is the result of the collaborative efforts between Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, and KABOOM!, a national non-profit dedicated to building play spaces; and

**WHEREAS**, the project's goal was to provide the school's students with a fully accessible play environment to positively impact social, emotional, cognitive and physical development; and

**WHEREAS**, several individuals and organizations were instrumental to the success of the project, including Principal Susan Lyle, teachers Maria Estevan and Michelle Bigenho and the faculty and staff at Gulfstream Elementary School; Kalex Construction, Ruiz Trans Development Corp, R. Montenegro, Inc., Avar, Ammann & Whitney, Inc., and the Carlson Fence Company; the Cutler Bay Business Association; the Gulfstream Elementary School PTA, and M-DCPS employees Francis Hoar, David Warner, Alyce Neji, and Richard Dykes; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends the many individuals and organizations that came together to support this worthwhile endeavor so that the students of Gulfstream Elementary School enjoy the playground for years to come;

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

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 10-070 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Gulfstream Playground partnerships.

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

**Presented this sixteenth day of June, A.D. 2010**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary