

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 11-027 OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
PROCLAIMING APRIL 2011 AS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT
PREVENTION MONTH IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL
RELATIONS**

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

In 1974, the first federal child protection legislation, known as the Child Abuse and Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA), was passed. Amended over years to ensure the safety and welfare of children, the most recent revision was the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003. CAPTA defines child abuse and neglect as, at minimum, "any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation," or "an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm." The damage caused by child abuse impacts intellectual and cognitive development, emotional, psychological, and behavioral consequences, and health and physical effects.

Recognizing the need for innovative programs to prevent child abuse and assist parents and families, the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives designated June 6-12, 1982 as the first National Child Abuse Prevention Week. The following year, April was proclaimed the first National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and has since been observed through child abuse and child neglect awareness activities each year. The Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the Federal agency tasked with providing programs and services to protect children and strengthen families.

The Blue Ribbon Campaign originated in Virginia in 1989 when a grandmother, whose grandson died from child abuse, tied a blue ribbon to the antenna of her car as a constant reminder to fight for the protection of children and alert her community to the tragedy of child abuse. In communities around the country, people are encouraged to wear a blue ribbon during the month of April to show their commitment to child abuse prevention. In recent years, the focus has shifted toward celebrating "blue ribbon" individuals, organizations, and communities that work on behalf of child abuse prevention.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR
PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-027 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, proclaiming April 2011 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-027
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
PROCLAIMING APRIL 2011 AS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION
MONTH IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, the first federal child protection legislation to ensure the safety and welfare of children, the Child Abuse and Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA), was passed in 1974; and

WHEREAS, CAPTA defines child abuse and neglect as, at minimum, "any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation," or "an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm;" and

WHEREAS, the damage caused by child abuse is associated with intellectual and cognitive development, emotional, psychological, and behavioral consequences, and health and physical effects; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the need for innovative programs to prevent child abuse and assist parents and families, the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives designated June 6-12, 1982 as the first National Child Abuse Prevention Week. The following year, April was proclaimed the first National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and has since been observed through child abuse and child neglect awareness activities each year; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Campaign originated in 1989 as a way for people show their commitment to child abuse prevention. In recent years, the focus has shifted toward celebrating "blue ribbon" individuals, organizations, and communities that work on behalf of child abuse prevention;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-027 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, proclaiming April 2011 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

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

Presented this ninth day of March, A.D. 2011

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary