

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 11-068 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING MS. GUYLENE C. BERRY, FOUNDER AND CEO OF POSITIVE IMPACT FOUNDATION, FOR HER COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY SERVICE

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

Born and raised in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Guylene Berry migrated to Miami in 1997, and began working as a Creole interpreter in the medical and legal fields, and as a court mediator. For the past 10 years, she has worked for the federal court system in South Florida, and the City of Miami as the official interpreter for commission meetings. Today, Ms. Berry is one of the most influential Haitian American personalities in South Florida. She is the founder of *Youth Talk Show*, giving a radio voice to Caribbean youth. As host and producer of the *Koze Fanm* (Women's Issues) and *Vwa Djaspora* (Diaspora's Voice) radio shows, and *Bonjou Miami* television program, she brings awareness to the issues of Haitian women. She also focuses on educational, economic, medical, legal, political and social issues affecting the Haitian community at large through these outlets.

Ms. Berry is an excellent communicator and a gifted educator. Her most recent creative projects are in the fields of broadcasting and human development. She recently developed a new radio program titled, *Haitian America Voice* – a novelty in the Haitian-American community designed for youths and parents of all cultures and national origins.

Her passion for community development led her to establish the non-profit organization Positive Impact Foundation, Inc. The goal of Positive Impact Foundation is to empower youths and families by providing important information regarding community resources and staging events that build family bonds. As the Executive Director of the organization, she embodies its motto: "Be the Change You Want to See."

Additionally, Ms. Berry is a Public Relations Advisor for the North Miami Community Redevelopment Agency. She also plays an important role in a number of community organizations and serves on several boards, among them: the Carrie Meek Foundation, Church World Services, and the Community Affairs Committee of the Museum of Contemporary Art. One of her most important roles is that of a single mother raising two teenagers, Jonathan and Natalie.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. DOROTHY BENDROSS MINDINGALL:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-068 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ms. Guylene C. Berry, founder and CEO of Positive Impact Foundation, for her commitment to community service.

**Replacement
H-21**

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-068 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING MS. GUYLENE C. BERRY, FOUNDER AND CEO OF POSITIVE IMPACT
FOUNDATION, FOR HER COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY SERVICE**

WHEREAS, Guylene Berry was born and raised in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and after migrating to Miami in 1997, began working as a Creole interpreter in the medical and legal fields, and as a court mediator. For the past 10 years, she has worked for the federal court system in South Florida, and the City of Miami as the official interpreter for commission meetings; and

WHEREAS, one of the most influential Haitian American personalities in South Florida, Ms. Berry is the founder of *Youth Talk Show* giving a radio voice to Caribbean youth; host and producer of both *Koze Fanm* (Women's Issues) and *Vwa Djaspora* (Diaspora's Voice) radio shows, and the television program *Bonjou Miami*, in which she brings awareness to the issues of Haitian women. She also focuses on educational, economic, medical, legal, political and social issues affecting the Haitian community at large through these outlets; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Berry is an excellent communicator and a gifted educator and recently developed a new radio program titled, *Haitian America Voice* – designed for youths and parents of all cultures and national origins. She currently is a Public Relations Advisor for the North Miami Community Redevelopment Agency; and

WHEREAS, her passion for community development led her to establish the non-profit organization Positive Impact Foundation, Inc., whose goal is to empower youths and families by providing important information regarding community resources and staging events that build family bonds; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Berry also plays various roles in a number of community organizations and serves on several boards, among them the Carrie Meek Foundation, Church World Services, and the Community Affairs Committee of the Museum of Contemporary Art. However, one of her most important roles is that of a single mother raising two teenagers, Jonathan and Natalie;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-068 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Guylene Berry for her work in the community.

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

Presented this eleventh day of May, A.D. 2011

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary