

Mr. Renier Diaz de la Portilla, Board Member

**SUBJECT:** SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF UNITED STATES MARINE BAND PERFORMANCE ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2011, HOSTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI } Revised

**COMMITTEE:** INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

The United States Marine Band is the premier band of the United States Marine Corps. Established by act of Congress on July 11, 1798, it is the oldest of the United States military bands and the oldest professional musical organization in the United States. It is uniquely known as "The President's Own" because of its historic connection to the President of the United States. A connection which was formalized in 1801 when Thomas Jefferson initiated the tradition of Marine Band performances by requesting that it perform at his inauguration. The Marine Band has played at every United States presidential inauguration since.

Today, the Band performs regularly at the White House and in approximately 500 events each year including state funerals, state arrival ceremonies, state dinners, parades, and other social events. The Marine Band also travels across the country each October and November during its fall concert tour, a tradition that began in 1891 under its most famous director, composer John Philip Sousa. This fall, the University of Miami will be hosting the Band at its Bank United Center, and it is only fitting that we join the University in its efforts to promote this performance by encouraging student attendance to an event of such great cultural, musical, and historical value. The performance is open to the public, but tickets, which are FREE, are required. } Revised

*The Washington Post* calls the U.S. Marine Band "not only the best in the land but, very likely, the best in the world."

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MR. RENIER DIAZ DE LA PORTILLA:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse the United States Marine Band performance on October 14, 2011, hosted by the University of Miami, and direct the Superintendent to work in conjunction with the University help promote the event among M-DCPS students. } Revised