

Office of the School Board Members  
Board Meeting of September 7, 2011

September 2, 2011

Ms. Raquel Regalado, Board Member

**SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF THE ADRIENNE ARSHT CENTER'S PRESENTATION OF 'ROCK ODYSSEY' FROM SEPTEMBER 19 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2011, AND ITS AFFILIATED EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

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

In 2010, the Adrienne Arsht Center created, produced, and presented the theatrical musical *Rock Odyssey*, an adaptation of Homer's Greek epic the *Odyssey*, and invited every fifth grader to participate. *Rock Odyssey* has been a tremendous success, receiving high praise from educators and thrilling the young audience. The production gave a "wow and wondrous" moment to schoolchildren of diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, embarking them on a lifelong appreciation of the arts.

The center plays a social role in uniting children of all cultural, ethnic and economic backgrounds using the universal language of the arts to contribute to a new Miami that embraces diversity. As a result of grants from Miami-Dade County, the Wachovia Foundation and Wells Fargo, the Arsht Center's Learning through the Arts program has touched the lives of approximately 50,000 schoolchildren.

Acknowledging that the arts enrich our human experience and are a powerful education tool for students who may not respond to traditional academic methods, this board item requests that the Board endorse 'Rock Odyssey' and as such, the center's Learning through the Arts program.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MS. RAQUEL A. REGALADO:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse the Adrienne Arsht Center's presentation of 'Rock Odyssey' from September 19 to September 30, 2011 and its affiliated education and outreach programs.

**Replacement  
H-16**