

Dr. Martin Karp, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 11-115
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE VERIZON FOUNDATION FOR
AWARDING \$48,000 IN S.T.E.M. GRANTS TO ENHANCE
SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

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

The Verizon Foundation Thinkfinity program recently awarded \$48,000 in grants to Miami-Dade County Public Schools to enhance classroom programs that enrich student's skills in science, technology, engineering and math for the 2011-2012 school year. Verizon also granted \$60,000 to the Florida Center for Instructional Technology and its teacher training and curriculum programs. The six Miami-Dade teachers and their respective schools include Laurie Futterman of David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center, Bertha Vazquez of George Washington Carver Middle School, Georgina Koch of Glades Middle School, Mayra Brody of Kendale Elementary School, Marcelle Farley of Linda Lentin K-8 Center, and Suzanne Banas of South Miami Middle School.

Thinkfinity is the Verizon Foundation's interactive educational platform, which provides thousands of free standard-based educational resources to teachers, parents and students to use in and out of the classroom. Thinkfinity also provides a comprehensive professional-development program that allows teachers online face-to-face training to learn the tools of Thinkfinity, and the Thinkfinity Community, which is an online discussion forum for teachers, administrators, and parents to share questions and ideas on current topics in education.

Thinkfinity.org operates through a partnership between the Verizon Foundation and 11 of the nation's leading organizations in education and literacy including, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Council for Economic Education, the International Reading Association, The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the National Center for Family Literacy, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Council of Teachers of English, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the National Geographic Society, ProLiteracy and the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends the Verizon Foundation for its contributions to and support of educators to provide an exceptional educational experience for the students of Miami-Dade County.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTIN KARP:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-115 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the Verizon Foundation for awarding \$48,000 in S.T.E.M. grants to enhance school programs.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-115
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING THE VERIZON FOUNDATION FOR AWARDING \$48,000 IN S.T.E.M.
GRANTS TO ENHANCE SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, the Verizon Foundation Thinkfinity program recently awarded \$48,000 in grants to Miami-Dade County Public Schools to enhance classroom programs that enrich student's skills in science, technology, engineering and math for the 2011-2012 school year; and

WHEREAS, the six Miami-Dade teachers and their respective schools include Laurie Futterman of David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center, Bertha Vazquez of George Washington Carver Middle School, Georgina Koch of Glades Middle School, Mayra Brody of Kendale Elementary School, Marcelle Farley of Linda Lentin K-8 Center, and Suzanne Banas of South Miami Middle School; and

WHEREAS, Thinkfinity is the Verizon Foundation's interactive educational platform, which provides thousands of free standard-based educational resources to teachers, parents and students to use in and out of the classroom. Thinkfinity also provides a comprehensive professional-development program that allows teachers online face-to-face training to learn the tools of Thinkfinity, and the Thinkfinity Community, which is an online discussion forum for teachers, administrators, and parents to share questions and ideas on current topics in education; and

WHEREAS, Thinkfinity.org operates through a partnership between the Verizon Foundation and many of the nation's leading organizations in education and literacy; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends the Verizon Foundation for its contributions to and support of educators to provide an exceptional educational experience for the students of Miami-Dade County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approves Resolution No. 11-115 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the Verizon Foundation for awarding \$48,000 in S.T.E.M. grants to enhance school programs.

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

Presented this nineteenth day of October A.D. 2011

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary