

Dr. Martin Karp, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 12-076
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
PARENT CHILD HOME PROGRAM**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

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

The Parent-Child Home Program was created nationally in the 1960s by Dr. Phyllis Levenstein with the understanding that the best way to prevent children from dropping out of school was to foster a love of learning at home from an early age. Her method emphasized reading and verbal interaction.

The Miami Beach Parent-Child Home Program serves residents through an innovative home-based program that emphasizes early childhood literacy and solid parenting skills. The voluntary program is designed to cultivate a strong parent-child relationship, improve language and literacy skills as well as encourage social and emotional development. Key elements of the program include highlighting the role of the parent as a child's first teacher, and respecting privacy and cultures.

The program participants must be Miami Beach residents who currently meet a low income threshold. Children from 16 months old to younger than 3 years qualify as do parents or children who are born in another country and have not obtained college degrees. As part of the program, trained home visitors meet with families 2 times a week to foster verbal interaction and learning through play. Families are supplied with appropriate books and toys to reinforce their teachings.

The Miami Beach Parent-Child Home Program is to be commended for its commitment to early childhood development and education. The program fosters a spirit of discovery and love of education that prepares children to become life long learners.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. MARTIN KARP:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-076 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the City of Miami Beach Parent-Child Home Program.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 12-076
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH PARENT-CHILD HOME PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Parent-Child Home Program was created nationally in the 1960s by Dr. Phyllis Levenstein with the understanding that the best way to prevent children from dropping out of school was to foster a love of learning at home from an early age; and

WHEREAS, the Miami Beach Parent-Child Home Program serves residents through an innovative home-based program that emphasizes early childhood literacy and solid parenting skills; and

WHEREAS, the voluntary program is designed to cultivate a strong parent-child relationship, improve language and literacy skills as well as encourage social and emotional development. Key elements of the program include highlighting the role of the parent as a child's first teacher, and respecting privacy and cultures; and

WHEREAS, the program participants must be Miami Beach residents who currently meet a low income threshold. Foreign-born parents or children who have not obtained college degrees qualify; and

WHEREAS, as part of the program, trained home visitors meet with families 2 times a week to foster verbal interaction and learning through play. Families are supplied with appropriate books and toys to reinforce their teachings; and

WHEREAS, the Miami Beach Parent-Child Home Program is to be commended for its commitment to early childhood development and education. The program fosters a spirit of discovery and love of education that prepares children to become life long learners;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-076 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the City of Miami Beach Parent-Child Home Program.

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

Presented this sixteenth day of May A.D. 2012

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary