

Ms. Raquel Regalado, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 12-135 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE MIAMI-DADE EMPLOYABILITY NETWORK FOR FUNDING INTERNSHIPS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Miami-Dade EmployAbility Network is an organization dedicated to educating and encouraging employers to recruit, hire, train and retain employees with disabilities as part of promoting good business practices. The organization seeks to erase the preconceived notions of employing people with disabilities, encourage the employment of people with disabilities, and connect businesses with organizations that can help them find qualified candidates.

The Miami-Dade EmployAbility Network has established an internship program that reimburses businesses 100 percent of an intern's earnings. The goal of the program is to educate businesses regarding the employability of people with disabilities while providing employment opportunity for interns. The organization began placing interns in 2007. Since that time, an estimated 60 interns have been placed with 30 employers. Many of the interns are hired permanently after their internship period.

The Miami-Dade EmployAbility Network works with many organizations, including Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Goodwill Industries, and Best Buddies, to identify potential interns. Interns undergo each company's regular hiring process and employers are instructed on how to integrate interns with disabilities into their work areas.

The Miami-Dade EmployAbility Network's efforts in our community have been instrumental in breaking down stereotypes and opening doors for people with disabilities. Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends the Miami-Dade EmployAbility Network for its commitment to improving workplace diversity and the lives of people with disabilities.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MS. RAQUEL REGALADO: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-135 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the Miami-Dade EmployAbility Network for funding internships for people with disabilities.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-135
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING THE MIAMI-DADE EMPLOYABILITY NETWORK FOR FUNDING
INTERNSHIPS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

WHEREAS, The Miami-Dade EmployAbility Network is an organization dedicated to educating and encouraging employers to recruit, hire, train and retain employees with disabilities as part of promoting good business practices; and

WHEREAS, the organization seeks to erase the preconceived notions of employing people with disabilities, encourage the employment of people with disabilities, and connect businesses with organizations that can help them find qualified candidates; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade EmployAbility Network has established an internship program that reimburses businesses 100 percent of an intern's earnings. The goal of the program is to educate businesses regarding the employability of people with disabilities while providing employment opportunity for interns; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade EmployAbility Network's efforts in our community have been instrumental in breaking down stereotypes and opening doors for people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends the Miami-Dade EmployAbility Network for its commitment to improving workplace diversity and the lives of people with disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-135 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the Miami-Dade EmployAbility Network for funding internships for people with disabilities.

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

Presented this fifth day of September, A.D. 2012

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary