

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 13-026 OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING MARLEINE BASTIEN FOR HER COMMITMENT TO
EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

Marleine Bastien started Fanm Ayisyen Nan Miyami, Inc. (FANM) in 1991 by gathering a dozen women in her Miami home to address the problems facing Haitian refugees and immigrants. The resulting organization worked tirelessly for nearly a decade out of Ms. Bastien's residence on a small budget before moving into its own headquarters in 1999. FANM transitioned from a volunteer driven body to a fully operational agency with support staff a year later.

A passionate and articulate spokesperson for Haitians, Ms. Bastien formed the "Justice Coalition for the Haitian Children of Guantanamo" to advocate for Haitian children detained on the base in the early 1990s. She has and continues to use her expertise as a licensed clinical social worker to speak on behalf of the marginalized, both on the local and national level. Ms. Bastien is internationally renowned as a champion for social change on many issues, especially with regard to immigration, education, healthcare access, women's and employment rights.

In 1999, the Miami Herald named Ms. Bastien one of the "Forty Special People to Watch in the Next Millennium." She also has received many awards, including: The Human Rights Award from Amnesty International, the "Woman of the Year Award" from Ms. Magazine, the "Leadership for a Changing World" Award from the Ford Foundation, and named one of the "35 Most Remarkable Women in the World," by Essence Magazine in 2005. In 2007, she served as a Delegate for the Civil Society at the World Migration Forum held in Brussels, and again in Manila in October 2008 at which time she was chosen among hundreds of delegates to speak in front of the United Nations.

The School Board commends Marleine Bastien for continuing to dedicate herself to the betterment and benefit of others in health, education, economic survival and social justice, and for serving not only as the voice of Haitian women, but as the unofficial spokesperson for the Haitian community.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. DOROTHY BENDROSS-MINDINGALL:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-026 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Marleine Bastien for her commitment to education and community service.

**Replacement
H-20**

RESOLUTION NO. 13-026
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING
MARLEINE BASTIEN FOR HER COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

WHEREAS, Marleine Bastien started Fanm Ayisyen Nan Miyami, Inc. (FANM) in 1991 by gathering a dozen women in her Miami home to address the problems facing Haitian refugees and immigrants; and

WHEREAS, the resulting organization worked tirelessly for nearly a decade out of Ms. Bastien's residence on a small budget before moving into its own headquarters in 1999. FANM transitioned from a volunteer driven body to a fully operational agency with support staff a year later; and

WHEREAS, a passionate and articulate spokesperson for Haitians, Ms. Bastien formed the "Justice Coalition for the Haitian Children of Guantanamo" to advocate for Haitian children detained on the base in the early 1990s; and

WHEREAS, she has and continues to use her expertise as a licensed clinical social worker to speak on behalf of the marginalized, both on the local and national level. Ms. Bastien is internationally renowned as a champion for social change on many issues, especially with regard to immigration, education, healthcare access, women's and employment rights; and

WHEREAS, the Miami Herald named Ms. Bastien one of the "Forty Special People to Watch in the Next Millennium." She also has received many awards, including: The Human Rights Award from Amnesty International, the "Woman of the Year Award" from Ms. Magazine, the "Leadership for a Changing World" Award from the Ford Foundation, and named one of the "35 Most Remarkable Women in the World" by Essence Magazine in 2005. In 2007, she served as a Delegate for the Civil Society at the World Migration Forum held in Brussels, and again in Manila in October 2008 at which time she was chosen among hundreds of delegates to speak in front of the United; and

WHEREAS, the School Board commends Marleine Bastien for continuing to dedicate herself to the betterment and benefit of others in health, education, economic survival and social justice, and for serving not only as the voice of Haitian women, but as the unofficial spokesperson for the Haitian community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-026 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Marleine Bastien for her commitment to education and community service.

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

Presented this thirteenth day of February, A.D. 2013

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary