

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 13-047 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE 2012-2013 PARAPROFESSIONAL/SCHOOL SUPPORT PERSONNEL OF THE YEAR WINNER AND THE 2012-2013 OFFICE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR WINNER**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

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

For the past 26 years, Miami-Dade County Public Schools has been honoring the contributions of the most outstanding Office Employee and Paraprofessional/School Support Personnel of the Year. The following are this year's winners:

Sara Blanton, a Registrar at Miami MacArthur South Senior High School, was named 2012-2013 Office Employee of the Year. Ms. Blanton has worked for the District for 19 years. She has assisted the Principal with building the Master Schedule, maintaining categorical updates of curriculum courses for middle and high school students, and with day-to-day communications with outreach programs for students.

Ms. Blanton has an Associate of Arts Degree from Miami Dade College and completed a series of M-DCPS core courses for job related development and additional courses for payroll and accounting. Ms. Blanton is actively involved in her community and church. She and her family have been honored by the City of Homestead for their dedicated service to the community.

Michelle C. Benz is an athletic trainer at Miami Palmetto Senior High School and recently was named the 2012-2013 Paraprofessional/School Support Personnel of the Year winner. She has worked for the District for 16 years and is responsible for providing services and event coverage to Miami Palmetto Senior High School's 33 sports teams, where she coordinates the sports medical program, sponsors the sports medicine club, and teaches the courses on the care and prevention of athletic injuries.

Ms. Benz, who has a Master's Degree in Health Science, created a project on youth sports concussion treatment and management which was quickly adopted by M-DCPS as the model used in each high school in the county.

Sara Blanton and Michelle Benz are to be commended for their dedication to the students and families of M-DCPS. Their commitment to excellence has enriched the lives of countless students.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR  
PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-047 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the 2012-2013 Paraprofessional/School Support Personnel Of The Year Winner and the 2012-2013 Office Employee Of The Year Winner.