

Ms. Susie V. Castillo, Board Member

**SUBJECT:** REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 13-060 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING JENNIFER PORRES AND DANIELA ZAPATA, OF MIAMI SPRINGS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, FOR DIRECTING AND PRODUCING 'TAKE A STAND, LEND A HAND' – THE WINNING ENTRY IN THE BULLY FREE-0-FIVE ART & FILM FESTIVAL

**COMMITTEE:** INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:** EDUCATION

On Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013, a group of young professionals from the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Miami program hosted the first bullying awareness art and film festival for high school students in Miami-Dade. The event, titled: 'Bully Free-0-Five Art & Film Festival', included an exhibit of student artwork, music and dance performances, special guest speakers, and an awards show to celebrate the winning works of art. The event, which took place at Miami Jackson Senior High School, showcased over 220 works of art (including videos) submitted by more than 430 high school students across over 30 schools in Miami-Dade.

The first place award at the festival went to Miami Springs Senior High School sophomores Jennifer Porres and Daniela Zapata for their video 'Take a Stand, Lend a Hand'. Jennifer and Daniela not only came up with the concept for the winning video, they also directed and produced the film, and recruited fellow classmates to participate. Rather than merely illustrating the definition of bullying, Porres and Zapata instead conceptualized a proactive approach to the issue – calling on others to take action.

With unbridled creativity, and the guidance of their teacher, Mr. Rene Barge, Jennifer and Daniela were able to create a truly impactful video that serves as moving call to action in the fight against bullying. In the end, their talent and creativity also paid off for their school, which received a \$5,000 donation from the festival organizers for being home to the winning first place entry.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY MS. SUSIE V. CASTILLO:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-060 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Jennifer Porres and Daniela Zapata, of Miami Springs Senior High School, for directing and producing 'Take a Stand, Lend a Hand' – the winning entry in the Bully Free-0-Five Art & Film Festival.

**Replacement  
H-23**

**(Withdrawn - - 04/16/2013)**

**RESOLUTION NO. 13-060**  
**OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,**  
**RECOGNIZING JENIFFER PORRES AND DANIELA ZAPATA, OF MIAMI SPRINGS**  
**SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, FOR DIRECTING AND PRODUCING 'TAKE A STAND, LEND**  
**A HAND' – THE WINNING ENTRY IN THE BULLY FREE-0-FIVE ART & FILM FESTIVAL**

**WHEREAS**, the promotion of a safe and healthy school environment is imperative to facilitating the academic progress of our students and ensuring their wellbeing; and

**WHEREAS**, Jennifer Porres and Daniela Zapata, sophomores at Miami Springs Senior High School, not only recognize the importance of promoting a safe learning atmosphere, but also the need to take action against behaviors that undermine a bully-free environment; and

**WHEREAS**, these students demonstrated exemplary character and leadership through the creation, direction, and production of a music video promoting compassion, solidarity, and an appreciation for diversity; and

**WHEREAS**, their video, 'Take a Stand, Lend a Hand', exemplified courage, tolerance, and the need to speak out against bullying behaviors; and

**WHEREAS**, 'Take a Stand, Lend a Hand', won first place, out of over 220 entries, in the 'Bully Free-0-Five Art & Film Festival' – an event organized by a group of young professionals from the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Miami program; and

**WHEREAS**, Jennifer Porres and Daniela Zapata are deserving of recognition and admiration for their talent, character, and commitment to raising awareness about bullying;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-060 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Jennifer Porres and Daniela Zapata, of Miami Springs Senior High School, for directing and producing 'Take a Stand, Lend a Hand' – the winning entry in the Bully Free-0-Five Art & Film Festival.

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

**Presented this seventeenth day of April, A.D. 2013**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary