

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 13-120 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

In October 1981, the Day of Unity was created by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence to connect domestic abuse advocates from across the country who were working to end violence against women and their children. In 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was celebrated. Two years later, commemorative legislation was passed by Congress. Legislation has been passed every year to recognize October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Domestic Violence Awareness Month has become an important vehicle to promote awareness of domestic abuse and also champion the strength and resilience of battered women and their children.

With the passage of the Violence Against Women Act almost two decades ago, the government took a powerful stance against domestic violence. Though there has been much progress in reducing domestic violence, one in four women and one in seven men still suffer domestic violence at the hands of their intimate partners. This past spring President Obama signed the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, which provides law enforcement with better resources to investigate rape, universities better education tools regarding dating violence and sexual assault and allows tribal courts to pursue domestic abuse charges on tribal land.

The current administration views ending domestic violence as a national imperative. It is committed to standing with advocates, law enforcement, victim service providers and the criminal justice system to hold offenders accountable and provide support to survivors. Under the Affordable Health Care Act, new health care plans must cover domestic violence screening and counseling without copayments or cost sharing.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools is proud to join the nation in observing Domestic Violence Awareness Month on behalf of those affected by domestic violence and those who are committed to ending the cycle of abuse. The school district has personally taken a stand against domestic violence with the adoption of Dating Violence or Abuse policy that protects students from dating violence or abuse on school property, during a school-sponsored event or during school-sponsored transportation.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. DOROTHY BENDROSS-MINDINGALL:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-120 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

**Replacement
H-19**

**RESOLUTION NO. 13-120
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, in October 1981, the Day of Unity was created by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence to connect domestic abuse advocates from across the country who were working to end violence against women and their children; and

WHEREAS, with the passage of the Violence Against Women Act almost two decades ago, the government took a powerful stance against domestic violence. In addition, this past spring President Obama signed the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, which provides law enforcement with better resources to investigate rape, universities better education tools regarding dating violence and sexual assault and allows tribal courts to pursue domestic abuse charges on tribal lands; and

WHEREAS, the current administration views ending domestic violence as a national imperative. It is committed to standing with advocates, law enforcement, victim service providers and the criminal justice system to hold offenders accountable and provide support to survivors; and

WHEREAS, under the Affordable Health Care Act, new health care plans must cover domestic violence screening and counseling without copayments or cost sharing; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools is proud to join the nation in observing Domestic Violence Awareness Month on behalf of those affected by domestic violence and those who are committed to ending the cycle of abuse. The school district has personally taken a stand against domestic violence with the adoption of Dating Violence or Abuse policy that protects students from dating violence or abuse on school property, during a school-sponsored event or during school-sponsored transportation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-120 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

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

Presented this sixteenth day of October, A.D. 2013

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary