

Dr. Martin Karp, Vice Chair

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 13-127
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING DAVID NEW**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

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

R. David New was born and raised in Philadelphia, PA. After attending prep school at the Germantown Academy, David began his university studies at the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University. He continued his education at the Tyler School of Art, Temple University, the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City and The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale.

An artist at heart, David worked in his family's furniture business while creating his own interior design firm, R. David New Interior Design. David relocated to South Florida and continued pursuing his passion for art and design.

After losing his sight in 2001 from a degenerative eye disease, David has become an advocate for the disabled in South Florida. Since 2008, David has been the chairman of the Disability Access Committee for the City of Miami. In 2010, David founded and became Chairman for the Miami Beach Council of the Blind as well as Founded and is President of Power Access. All of these organizations and committees promote awareness regarding the needs of those with disabilities.

In 2010, David created Ability Explosion which is an event to build awareness about and improve the lives of people with disabilities. Ability Explosion includes a range of events including a technology convention, a 5k run, and an evening of dining in the dark.

The School Board commends David New for his dedication to improving the lives of the disabled through awareness, acceptance and innovation.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY VICE CHAIR
DR. MARTIN KARP:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-127 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing David New.

**Replacement
H-12**

**RESOLUTION NO. 13-127
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING DAVID NEW**

WHEREAS, R. David New was born and raised in Philadelphia, PA. After attending prep school at the Germantown Academy, David began his university studies at the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University. He continued his education at the Tyler School of Art, Temple University, the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City and The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale; and

WHEREAS, After losing his sight in 2001 from a degenerative eye disease, Rather than hold him back, blindness inspired and unleashed David's passion. His frustration with the lack of city services for the disabled won him the chairmanship of the Miami Beach Disability Access Committee; and

WHEREAS, David has become an advocate for the disabled in South Florida. Since 2008, David has been the chairman of the Disability Access Committee for the City of Miami. In 2010, David founded and became Chairman for the Miami Beach Council of the Blind as well as founded and is President of Power Access; and

WHEREAS, In 2010, David created Ability Explosion which is an event to build awareness about and improve the lives of people with disabilities. Ability Explosion includes a range of events including a technology convention, a 5k run, and an evening of dining in the dark; and

WHEREAS, in 2013 Ability Explosion has joined forces with Stand Among Friends to bring much needed attention to the disable community in unique and exciting ways; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-127 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing David New.

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

Presented this nineteenth day of November, A.D. 2013

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary