

Dr. Marta Pérez, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 13-131 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, HONORING DR. CARLOS J. FINLAY ELEMENTARY FOR RECEIVING THE "DISPELLING THE MYTH AWARD" FROM THE EDUCATION TRUST

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

"Ordinary People, Extraordinary Results" was the theme of the Education Trust's 2013 Annual Conference in Baltimore, Maryland, held this past October. It describes perfectly one of the three schools from across the United States chosen to receive their "Dispelling the Myth Award", which recognizes schools with large populations of low-income and minority students who are performing similarly or better than more affluent students throughout the state.

Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary School, the first Florida school selected to receive this prestigious recognition, serves a population that is indeed needy, with 87% classified as low-income and over 50% still struggling to learn English. Yet these students managed to outperform many of their peers.

The Education Trust recognizes schools whose data results and academic practices dismiss the notion that there is little schools can do to help students overcome the barriers of poverty and discrimination. Many of the staff at Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary School, led by Principal Cecilia Sanchez, are themselves the children of immigrants. They draw strength and resolve from their shared experiences to help the students succeed academically.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTA PÉREZ:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-131 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, honoring Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary School for receiving the "Dispelling the Myth" Award from The Education Trust.

**Replacement
H-3**