

Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Vice Chair

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 14-031 OF
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
RECOGNIZING MR. AND MRS. ARTIE AND SUSAN
LEICHNER'S COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION AND
TECHNOLOGY ACCESS**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

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

Community activist and educator Artie Leichner has served the students, parents, and teachers of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) for over thirty years. During his years of service, Mr. Leichner has served as Treasurer of the South Florida AFL/CIO from 2011-2013 and 1st Vice President of United Teachers of Dade (UTD) from 2005-2013, strongly focusing on the health of students and teachers and the indoor air quality of school facilities and learning environments. A Carnegie Scholar, Mr. Leichner's dedication to academia led him to develop curriculum for and direct the instruction of an innovative combination World History and Language Arts course.

While at South Dade Senior High School, Mr. Leichner served as Educational Excellence School Advisory Committee Chairperson and led the transition to technology-based grading systems and software, as the first acting school gradebook manager and webmaster. Mr. Leichner's knowledge, skill and savvy in the then-emerging technological landscape led to his purchase and registration of the 'MDCPS.org' and 'MDCPS.net' internet domains long before the domain-purchasing industry developed. Mr. Leichner and his wife, Susan, also an award-winning, 35-year M-DCPS math teacher, made the decision to sell the domain names to the Miami-Dade County Public School system and donate the proceeds from the sale of the two internet domains to the Foundation for New Education Initiatives, "Give Kids the World – A World of Technology" Fundraising Campaign and E-rate initiative in 2012. Their \$30,000.00 donation of sale proceeds was added to this community's collaborative effort to raise \$7 million and capitalize on the federal E-Rate matching funds program. Their contribution to this worthy effort helped M-DCPS fund the acquisition of technology needed to establish wireless connectivity at all schools and transition all instructional materials to digital format; expand virtual classes; and expand computer-based testing.

Mr. and Mrs. Artie and Susan Leichner are to be commended for their insight, selfless service and financial commitment to the students of M-DCPS. Their shared dedication has touched countless students and helped to ensure technological access for educational communities throughout Miami-Dade.

**Replacement
H-19**

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. LAWRENCE FELDMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No.14-031, of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Artie and Susan Leichner's commitment to education and technology access.

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-031
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING MR. AND MRS. ARTIE AND SUSAN LEICHTNER'S COMMITMENT
TO EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY ACCESS**

WHEREAS, Community activist and educator Artie Leichner has served the students, parents, and teachers of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) for over thirty years; and

WHEREAS, During his years of service, Mr. Leichner has served as Treasurer of the South Florida AFL/CIO from 2011-2013 and 1st Vice President of United Teachers of Dade (UTD) from 2005-2013; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Leichner's knowledge, skill and savvy in the then-emerging technological landscape led to his purchase and registration of the MDCPS.org and MDCPS.net internet domains long before the domain-purchasing industry developed; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Leichner and his wife, Susan, also an award-winning, 35-year M-DCPS math teacher, made the decision to sell the domain names to the Miami-Dade County Public School system and donate the proceeds from the sale of the two internet domains to the Foundation for New Education Initiatives, "Give Kids the World – A World of Technology" Fundraising Campaign and E-rate initiative in 2012. Their \$30,000.00 donation of sale proceeds was added to this community's collaborative effort to raise \$7 million and capitalize on the federal E-Rate Matching funds program.

WHEREAS, Their contribution to this worthy effort helped M-DCPS fund the acquisition of technology needed to establish wireless connectivity at all schools and transition all instructional materials to digital format; expand virtual classes; and expand computer-based testing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 14-031 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Artie and Susan Leichner for their commitment to education and technology access.

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

Presented this twelfth day of March, A.D. 2014

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary