

Ms. Raquel Regalado, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 14-040 OF
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING THE O, MIAMI POETRY FESTIVAL

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

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

The *O, Miami Poetry Festival* is an annual event celebrated throughout the entire month of April with the goal of expanding and advancing the practice of poetry. Produced in partnership with the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the festival aims to have every single person in Miami-Dade County encounter a poem during the month via a series of events including poetry karaoke, parades, literary gatherings, yoga, pick-up basketball, performances, workshops, and zine fairs. This year, the festival will consist of nearly an event per day, along with twenty five projects designed to reach new audiences in Miami-Dade County.

The festival was founded in 2011 by P. Scott Cunningham, a graduate of Wesleyan University who is also the creator of the nonprofit arts organization O, Miami/University of Wynwood. O, Miami events and projects have been featured in *The New Yorker*, NPR's Morning Edition, NPR's The Takeaway, ESPN, *Time*, *The Guardian*, and many others. In 2011, Cunningham was named by *Fast Company* magazine as one of 51 "brilliant urbanites who are changing America." In 2010, he was named one of the "100 most creative people in Miami" by *The Miami New Times*, and in 2013 he was named one of the five most creative Miamians under 40 by *Ocean Drive* magazine. As a poet, his work has appeared in *Harvard Review*, *The Awl*, *The Rumpus*, *La Otra (Mexico)*, *Court Green*, *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*, and *Abe's Penny*, and he was a finalist for the 2013 National Chapbook Fellowship from Poetry Society of America.

This item commends the *O, Miami Poetry Festival* for establishing new grounds to foster literary culture in the Miami community.

Good cause exists to vary from the published agenda because this meeting presents the last opportunity to recognize the *O, Miami Poetry Festival* before the festival ends.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MS. RAQUEL REGALADO: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 14-040 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the *O, Miami Poetry Festival*.

**Good Cause
H-16**

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-040
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING THE O, MIAMI POETRY FESTIVAL**

WHEREAS, the *O, Miami Poetry Festival* is an annual event celebrated throughout the entire month of April with the goal of expanding and advancing the practice of poetry; and

WHEREAS, the festival, produced in partnership with the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, aims to have every single person in Miami-Dade County encounter a poem during the month via a series of events including poetry karaoke, parades, literary gatherings, yoga, pick-up basketball, performances, workshops, and zine fairs; and

WHEREAS, the festival was founded in 2011 by P. Scott Cunningham, who is also the creator of the nonprofit arts organization O, Miami/University of Wynwood; and

WHEREAS, Cunningham's poetry has appeared in *Harvard Review*, *The Awl*, *The Rumpus*, *La Otra (Mexico)*, *Court Green*, *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*, and *Abe's Penny*, and he was a finalist for the 2013 National Chapbook Fellowship from Poetry Society of America; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends the *O, Miami Poetry Festival* for establishing new grounds to foster literary culture in the Miami community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 14-040 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the *O, Miami Poetry Festival*.

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

Presented this ninth day of April, A.D. 2014

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary