

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 14-074 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING SOFIA ISABEL DIAZ OF MIAMI LAKES K-8 CENTER AS THE STATE WINNER OF THE SIMFA FOUNDATION'S INVESTWRITE NATIONAL ESSAY COMPETITION

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The SIFMA Foundation is dedicated to fostering knowledge and understanding of the financial markets for individuals of all backgrounds. The foundation provides financial education programs and tools that strengthen economic opportunities across communities and increase individuals' access to the benefits of the global marketplace.

SIFMA's *InvestWrite* national essay competition challenges students to analyze, think critically and problem solve. Launched in 2004, the program, sponsored by McGraw Hill Financial, encourages students in grades 4 to 12 to analyze an investment, address real-world financial issues and make recommendations targeting financial goals. Some 20,000 students nationwide take the InvestWrite challenge each year.

Sofia Isabel Diaz, a 7th-grader at Miami Lakes K-8 Center, is the first-place winner for the state of Florida in the middle school category. Sofia, who is in Miami Lakes K-8's gifted program, based her essay on an analysis of Panera Bread Company's stock. A member of her school's Media Crew, Art Club and National Honor Society, Sofia also has studied ballet at the prestigious Miami City Ballet School for the past five years. Two years ago, she was part of the team that won first place in SIMFA's Stock Market Game's Florida competition.

Sofia's teacher, Jennifer Simeon, has been teaching at Miami Lakes K-8 Center for two years. She studied elementary education at Florida International University and currently is finishing her master's degree in reading education. Ms. Simeon recently was recognized as Miami Lakes K-8 Center's Rookie Teacher of the Year.

Sofia Isabel Diaz and Jennifer Simeon are to be commended for their outstanding accomplishments.

ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR

PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 14-074 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Sofia Isabel Diaz of Miami Lakes K-8 Center as the state winner of the SIMFA Foundation's InvestWrite National Essay Competition.

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-074
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
SOFIA ISABEL DIAZ OF MIAMI LAKES K-8 CENTER AS THE STATE WINNER OF THE
SIMFA FOUNDATION'S INVESTWRITE NATIONAL ESSAY COMPETITION**

WHEREAS, the SIFMA Foundation is dedicated to fostering knowledge and understanding of the financial markets for individuals of all backgrounds. The foundation provides financial education programs and tools that strengthen economic opportunities across communities and increase individuals' access to the benefits of the global marketplace; and

WHEREAS, SIFMA's *InvestWrite* national essay competition challenges students to analyze, think critically and problem solve. Launched in 2004, the program, sponsored by McGraw Hill Financial, encourages students in grades 4 to 12 to analyze an investment, address real-world financial issues and make recommendations targeting financial goals; and

WHEREAS, Sofia Isabel Diaz, a 7th-grader at Miami Lakes K-8 Center, is the first-place winner for the state of Florida in the middle school category. Sofia, who is in Miami Lakes K-8's gifted program, based her essay on an analysis of Panera Bread Company's stock; and

WHEREAS, a member of her school's Media Crew, Art Club and National Honor Society, Sofia also has studied ballet at the prestigious Miami City Ballet School for the past five years. Two years ago, she was part of the team that won first place in SIMFA's Stock Market Game's Florida competition; and

WHEREAS, Sofia's teacher, Jennifer Simeon, has been teaching at Miami Lakes K-8 Center for two years. She studied elementary education at Florida International University and currently is finishing her master's degree in reading education. Ms. Simeon recently was recognized as Miami Lakes K-8 Center's Rookie Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Sofia Isabel Diaz and Jennifer Simeon are to be commended for their outstanding accomplishments;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 14-074 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Sofia Isabel Diaz of Miami Lakes K-8 Center as the state winner of the SIMFA Foundation's InvestWrite National Essay Competition.

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

Presented this sixth day of August, A.D. 2014

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary