

Ms. Lubby Navarro, Board Member

Co-Sponsor: Dr. Marta Pérez, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 15-049 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK MAY 16-22, 2015

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

The National Safe Boating Council (NSBC) embarks every year on a public awareness campaign as part of the National Safe Boating Week, May 16 – May 22, 2015. The National Safe Boating Week is normally scheduled to commence a week prior to Memorial Day Weekend in order to educate communities across the country about the importance of safe boating practices, and specifically about wearing a life jacket while on the water with a goal of preventing unwarranted deaths due to drowning.

According to the U.S. Coast Guard's 2013 Recreational Boating Safety Statistics, drowning was reported as the cause of death in three-fourths of all fatalities. Approximately 84% of those who drowned were not wearing life jackets. In 2013, the Coast Guard counted 4,062 accidents that involved 560 deaths, 2,620 injuries and approximately \$39 million dollars of damage to property as a result of recreational boating accidents. Twenty-two children under the age of thirteen lost their lives while boating in 2013. Out of these, eight children or approximately 36% died from drowning (five children or 62.5% of those who drowned were not wearing a life jacket as required by state and federal law).

In conjunction with the National Safe Boating Week, the network NBC launches its WEAR IT! public service campaign in partnership with many boating safety advocates, including the United States Coast Guard and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, to educate communities about the importance of wearing a life jacket to prevent drowning. The life jackets used today are more comfortable, more attractive, and more wearable than styles of years past and deserve a fresh look by today's boating public.

It is imperative for our community to create public awareness about the importance of wearing a life jacket while boating as we are geographically surrounded by bodies of water and many families practice boating as a recreational activity.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

LUBBY NAVARRO: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 15-049 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing National Safe Boating Week May 16-22, 2015.

**Replacement
H-4**

**RESOLUTION NO. 15-049
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK MAY 16-22, 2015**

WHEREAS, the National Safe Boating Week will be observed during the week of May 16-22, 2015.

WHEREAS, the National Safe Boating Council embarks every year on an awareness campaign as part of the National Safe Boating Week to educate communities across the country about the importance of safe boating practices.

WHEREAS, this awareness campaign specifically focuses on the importance of wearing a life jacket while on the water with a goal of preventing unwarranted deaths due to drowning.

WHEREAS, according to 2013 statistics, three-fourths of all fatalities were caused by drowning, and approximately 84% of those who drowned were not wearing life jackets.

WHEREAS, as part of the National Safe Boating Week, the WEAR IT! public service campaign is meant to educate communities about the importance of wearing a life jacket to prevent drowning.

WHEREAS, the importance of wearing a life jacket while boating is critical to our community as we are geographically surrounded by bodies of water and many families practice boating as a recreational activity.

WHEREAS, parents, educators, and students are encouraged to observe National Safe Boating Week to promote safe boating practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 15-049 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida recognizing National Safe Boating Week May 16-22, 2015.

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

Presented this thirteenth day of May, A.D. 2015

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary