

Ms. Lubby Navarro, Board Member

Co-Sponsors: Ms. Susie Castillo, Board Member
Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 16-077 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING MAJOR GENERAL MICHAEL T. PLEHN AND BEVERLY PLEHN ROY

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

The Plehn family is an extraordinary family that has led a life of service to both our Country and our Community.

Major General Michael T. Plehn, a graduate of Miami Southridge Senior High School, Class of 1983, serves as Chief of Staff, U.S. Southern Command, in Doral, Florida. In this assignment, Major General Plehn is responsible for successfully integrating and synchronizing the efforts of nine directorates and 15 special staff offices in support of the combatant commander's theater campaign plan. The U.S. Southern Command is a joint military command supporting U.S. national security objectives throughout the Western Hemisphere in cooperation with domestic and international partners, in order to foster security, ensure stability, and promote prosperity throughout Central and South America, the Caribbean and the global community.

In 1988, Major General Plehn graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy with military distinction with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Astronautical Engineering. He is a graduate of the School of Advanced Airpower Studies and the Chief of Staff of the Air Force Fellows program. He has served on the Air Staff and in joint assignments at Headquarters U.S. European Command, the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, Headquarters U.S. Central Command, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense. General Plehn is a master navigator with more than 2,100 hours, including more than 350 combat hours, primarily as an Electronic Warfare Officer on the AC-130 gunship. He has flown missions supporting operations over Bosnia, Somalia, Haiti, and Afghanistan, and has commanded special operations units at the squadron, group, and wing levels.

Throughout his distinguished military career, General Plehn has held numerous assignments including being selected in January 2015, as the Chief of Staff, of U.S. Southern Command and in September 2013 through January 2015, Principal Director for Middle East Policy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Office of Secretary of Defense, Washington D.C., as Major General. Additionally, Major General Plehn has also been the recipient of numerous military decorations including; the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with Oak leaf Cluster and many more.

Another exemplary member of the Plehn family is Ms. Beverly Roy Plehn, sibling of Major General Plehn and a graduate of Miami Southridge Senior High School, Class of 1982. Ms. Roy Plehn has dedicated her life to service, through her passion to serve children and our community.

In 1996, she began her career with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, as a substitute teacher, then went on to become a paraprofessional and now serves as a special education teacher at Gulfstream Elementary School. She is a strong advocate for children and strongly believes in improving the life skills of individuals with special needs by guiding them, challenging them and by inspiring her students to focus on their abilities and not their disabilities.

She is also dedicated to serving her community, through her involvement in many organizations and her church.

This resolution honors two outstanding alumni of Miami Southridge Senior High School, Major General Michael T. Plehn for his outstanding service to our nation and for his sacrifice in protecting the freedoms enjoyed by all Americans and Ms. Beverly Roy Plehn for her service and dedication to our students and our community.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
LUBBY NAVARRO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 16-077 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Major General Michael T. Plehn and Beverly Plehn Roy.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-077
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING MAJOR GENERAL MICHAEL T. PLEHN AND BEVERLY PLEHN ROY

WHEREAS, the Plehn family is an extraordinary family that has led a life of service to both our Country and our Community; and

WHEREAS, Major General Michael T. Plehn, a graduate of Miami Southridge Senior High School, Class of 1983, serves as Chief of Staff, U.S. Southern Command, in Doral, Florida. In this assignment, Major General Plehn is responsible for successfully integrating and synchronizing the efforts of nine directorates and 15 special staff offices in support of the combatant commander's theater campaign plan; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Major General Plehn graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy with military distinction with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Astronautical Engineering. He is a graduate of the School of Advanced Airpower Studies and the Chief of Staff of the Air Force Fellows program. He has served on the Air Staff and in joint assignments at Headquarters U.S. European Command, the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, Headquarters U.S. Central Command, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense.; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished military career, General Plehn has held numerous assignments including; being selected in January 2015, as the Chief of Staff, of U.S. Southern Command and in September 2013 through January 2015, Principal Director for Middle East Policy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Office of Secretary of Defense, Washington D.C., as Major General; and

WHEREAS, another exemplary member of the Plehn family, Ms. Beverly Roy Plehn, sibling of Major General Plehn and a graduate of Miami Southridge Senior High School, Class of 1982. Ms. Roy Plehn has dedicated her life to service, through her passion to serve children and our community; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, she began her career with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, as a substitute teacher, then went on to become a paraprofessional and now serves as a special education teacher at Gulfstream Elementary School; and is a strong advocate for children and strongly believes in improving the life skills of individuals with specials needs by guiding them, challenging them and by inspiring her students to focus on their abilities and not their disabilities; and

WHEREAS, this resolution commends two outstanding alumni of Miami Southridge Senior High School, Major General Michael T. Plehn for his outstanding service to our nation and for his sacrifice in protecting the freedoms enjoyed by all Americans and Ms. Beverly Roy Plehn for her service and dedication to our students and our community.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 16-077 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Major General Michael T. Plehn and Beverly Plehn Roy.

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

Presented on this thirteenth day of July, A.D. 2016

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary