

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 16-106 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING BROWNSVILLE CIVIC NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

In 1978, the Honorable, late, Jefferson Reaves Sr. founded the Brownsville Neighborhood Civic Association, Inc. (BNCA) in an effort to continue the work and legacy of the Brownsville Neighborhood Improvement Association, founded years earlier by the Honorable, late, Neal Adams Sr. In doing so, the Brownsville Neighborhood Civic Association, Inc. executed a robust blueprint for grassroots organizing and uniformed bloc voting that gave the Brownsville community a strong voice for decades to come. The BNCA was a formidable force throughout the 1980's, as its membership consisted of many well respected professional administrators and executives. This powerful think tank would come together to ensure a quality of life in Brownsville that was second to none. As the group's momentum grew, candidates and incumbent political forces of the day sought out their coveted endorsement, as it carried a sway of opinions that have been known to shape local elections.

Today, the BCNA is a proud member of the Coalition to Save Our Libraries and helped to lead an effort to ensure that libraries in the African-American community remained opened, with comparable hours to other branches throughout the County. The organization is also lending its voice and strongly supporting the refurbishment of Lincoln Memorial Cemetery in Brownsville, the final resting place of many of Miami's African-American pioneers. As Brownsville experiences change thru development, the BCNA is now adapting and expanding its network of support and advocacy to include the Treasure Heights, Annie Coleman #14 family of public housing communities and the Olinda/Earlington Heights neighborhood. Under this supportive network, the BCNA has formed a coalition for quality education in schools and libraries, and for decent housing, jobs, equitable contracting and business opportunities as well.

The Brownsville Civic Neighborhood Association, Inc., is Brownsville's premier voice for an improved quality of life, advocating for a community where children and families can safely live, work, and play and prosper.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. DOROTHY BENDROSS-MINDINGALL: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 16-106 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Brownsville Civic Neighborhood Association. } Revised

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-106
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING BROWNSVILLE CIVIC NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

} Revised

WHEREAS, in 1978, the Honorable, late, Jefferson Reaves Sr. founded the Brownsville Neighborhood Civic Association, Inc. (BNCA) in an effort to continue the work and legacy of the Brownsville Neighborhood Improvement Association, founded years earlier by the Honorable, late, Neal Adams Sr. In doing so, the Brownsville Neighborhood Civic Association, Inc. executed a robust blueprint for grassroots organizing and uniformed bloc voting that gave the Brownsville community a strong voice for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, the BNCA was a formidable force throughout the 1980's, as its membership consisted of many well respected professional administrators and executives. This powerful think tank would come together to ensure a quality of life in Brownsville that was second to none. As the group's momentum grew, candidates and incumbent political forces of the day sought out their coveted endorsement, as it carried a sway of opinions that have been known to shape local elections; and

WHEREAS, today, the BCNA is a proud member of the Coalition to Save Our Libraries and helped to lead an effort to ensure that libraries in the African-American community remained opened, with comparable hours to other branches throughout the County. The organization is also lending its voice and strongly supporting the refurbishment of Lincoln Memorial Cemetery in Brownsville, the final resting place of many of Miami's African-American pioneers; and

WHEREAS, as Brownsville experiences change thru development, the BCNA is now adapting and expanding its network of support and advocacy to include the Treasure Heights, Annie Coleman #14 family of public housing communities and the Olinda/Earlington Heights neighborhood. Under this supportive network, the BCNA has formed a coalition for quality education in schools and libraries, and for decent housing, jobs, equitable contracting and business opportunities as well; and

WHEREAS, the Brownsville Civic Neighborhood Association, Inc., is Brownsville's premier voice for an improved quality of life. The BCNA advocates for a community where children and families can safely live, work, play and prosper and is to be commended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 16-106 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Brownsville Civic Neighborhood Association.

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

Presented this twenty-third day of November, A.D. 2016

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary