

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Board Member

Co-Sponsor: Ms. Lubby Navarro, Board Member } Added

**SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF NOVEMBER 9, 2017, AS HOMELESS AWARENESS DAY IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED, AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS**

The Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust is tasked with ending homelessness in the County. With more than two decades of experience, the Homeless Trust is one of the most successful systems established in Miami-Dade County. Still, there are hundreds of people sleeping in our streets.

The Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust is sponsoring Homeless Awareness Day this year on November 9, 2017. Homeless Awareness Day exists to raise awareness of ways to end homelessness in Miami-Dade. Activities include open discussions with the community and the media, hosting events, organizing brigades of volunteers around the county, supporting in-school educational activities, and presenting an educational rally for high school seniors at community auditoriums.

Again, this year, the Homeless Trust is inviting high school students in Miami-Dade County Public Schools to participate in the program which is scheduled to take place on November 9, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Thomas University. The event exposes high school seniors to the challenges related to homelessness. The Homeless Trust provides bus transportation to and from the program. Last year, 19 Miami-Dade County Public High Schools participated in this annual event which positively influences the hearts and minds of our community's youth.

This item has been reviewed and approved by the School Board Attorney's office as to form and legal sufficiency.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MS. MARIA TERESA ROJAS:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse Homeless Awareness Day, sponsored by the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust on November 9, 2018.