

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF MAY 8, 2018 AS NATIONAL TEACHER DAY IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION, & TECHNOLOGY

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS, LEADERS AND STAFF

National Teacher Day honors the vital role educators play in providing their students a quality education. An Arkansas teacher, Mattye Whyte Woodridge, developed the idea of a national day to honor teachers in the 1940s and began communicating with education and political leaders to bring it to fruition. Eventually, Woodridge contacted First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt who persuaded Congress to declare a National Teacher Day in 1953.

The National Education Association (NEA) in partnership with its local and state affiliates lobbied Congress to establish a nationally-recognized day to celebrate teachers. Congress responded by declaring March 7, 1980 as National Teacher Day for that year only.

The NEA continued celebrating National Teacher Day in March for the next four years. It was changed to the first Tuesday of the first full week in May. This year, National Teacher Day will be observed on May 8th.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools is a strong supporter of its world class educators. Their commitment to academic excellence is evident in our students' many achievements both in and out of the classroom. Educators are to be commended for positively impacting the lives of not only their students but the families as well.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR
PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve endorsement of May 8, 2018 as National Teacher Day in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.