

Ms. Susie V. Castillo, Board Member

**SUBJECT:                   REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 18-040 OF THE  
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING DR. MARIA ELENA HERNANDEZ**

**COMMITTEE:               PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT  
LINK TO STRATEGIC  
BLUEPRINT:               HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS, LEADERS AND STAFF**

Maria Elena Hernandez has been an exceptional employee of the Miami-Dade County Public School system for over 40 years. Throughout her career she has remained committed to her love of education, children, and public service.

Dr. Hernandez is a proud graduate of Miami Coral Park Senior High School and has earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education, a double Master of Science degree in elementary education and educational leadership, and a Doctorate degree in educational leadership all from Nova Southeastern University.

Dr. Hernandez began her career with Miami-Dade County Public Schools as a part-time secretary within the Bilingual Department. She rapidly made her way to the school-site workforce at Palm Lakes Elementary School, where she served as a Bilingual Paraprofessional. She was first employed as a full-time teacher at Flagami Elementary School in 1986, where she in due course was appointed as assistant principal in 1993. She went on to serve as assistant principal at Snapper Creek Elementary School and Sweetwater Elementary School. She was first appointed to the position of principal at E.W.F. Stirrup Elementary School in 2008.

Dr. Hernandez's first year at E.W.F. Stirrup Elementary School marked the last year of the Aerospace Magnet Program at the school. The school at the time was facing a possibility of decreased enrollment. Dr. Hernandez however, took on the challenge of coming up with an appealing curriculum to attract and retain students. Dr. Hernandez directed the initiative to enrich the Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics curriculum at E.W.F. Stirrup Elementary School which is now a choice school with an enrollment of over 900 students.

Dr. Hernandez's hard work, professionalism, and commitment to the children, families, and staff of E.W.F. Stirrup Elementary School has earned her countless awards including Power of Technology Excellence in 2008, the Princeton Global Network Award in 2001, and a spot as one of the four finalists in the 2013 Principal of the Year Awards.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
MS. SUSIE V. CASTILLO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 18-040 recognizing Dr. Maria Elena Hernandez.

**Replacement  
B-8**

**RESOLUTION NO. 18-040  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING DR. MARIA ELENA HERNANDEZ**

**WHEREAS**, Maria Elena Hernandez has been an exceptional employee of the Miami-Dade County Public School system for over 40 years, committed to education, children, and public service; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Hernandez is a proud graduate of Miami Coral Park Senior High School and has earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education, a double Master of Science degree in elementary education and educational leadership, and a Doctorate degree in educational leadership all from Nova Southeastern University; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Hernandez began her career as a part-time secretary within the Bilingual Department of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, she quickly made her way to the school-site workforce at Palm Lakes Elementary School, where she served as a Bilingual Paraprofessional; and

**WHEREAS**, she was first employed as a full-time teacher at Flagami Elementary School in 1986. Dr. Hernandez ultimately became an assistant principal in 1993; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Hernandez went on to serve as assistant principal at Snapper Creek Elementary School and Sweetwater Elementary School. She was appointed to the position of principal at E.W.F. Stirrup Elementary School in 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Hernandez spearheaded the initiative to enrich the Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics curriculum at E.W.F. Stirrup Elementary School; and

**WHEREAS**, her hard work, professionalism, and commitment to the children, families, and staff of E.W.F. Stirrup Elementary School has earned her countless awards including Power of Technology Excellence in 2008, the Princeton Global Network Award in 2001, and a spot as one of the four finalists in the 2013 Principal of the Year Awards; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Hernandez is to be commended for her dedication, professionalism, and countless contributions to the students, parents, and families of Miami-Dade County Public Schools;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 18-040 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Dr. Maria Elena Hernandez.

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

**Presented this twentieth day of June, A.D. 2018**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary