

Dr. Steve Gallon III, Board Member

SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF 2019 DOLPHINS STEAM DAY IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL, & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) is committed to partnering with groups, organizations, and entities in the provision of educational and related opportunities for students. Through such partnerships, M-DCPS has been able to leverage internal and external resources and expand educational experiences for students. One such partner in these efforts has been the Miami Dolphins Football Team. Located in District 1 in Miami Gardens, the Miami Dolphins has consistently demonstrated a willingness and commitment to working with M-DCPS in its achievement of educational and community goals.

Over the past several years, the Miami Dolphins has focused its efforts on supporting and promoting exposure to STEAM in schools and communities, and among underserved students. As a part of this effort, it has developed “Dolphins STEAM Day,” which provides an opportunity for our students to meet people in the science field.

According to the U.S. Department of Education (2010), the United States has become a global leader, in large part, through the genius and hard work of its scientists, engineers, and innovators. Currently, comparatively few students in the United States pursuing expertise in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields and by an inadequate pipeline of teachers skilled in those subjects threaten that position. Therefore, the role of STEM education in the present learning and future lives of our students is increasingly important. Also, a study by Aviation technician council showed that 30% of airplane mechanics are retiring, but new workers will fill only 2% of these jobs. There also has been a drop in the number of pilot certificates by more than 60% since 1980.

Therefore, this partnership will provide more exposure to students in the field of STEM. The program will spark excitement and motivate students in having a career choice in STEM. Students will also meet and view college students research at the Science EXPO University section and network with local businesses, which can be eventual employers. Recently, the Miami Dolphins has agreed to partner with District 1 in promoting and expanding this initiative to District 1 schools. It has also agreed to expand opportunities for participation to several schools in each voting district throughout M-DCPS---from County Line Road to Florida City, and will serve more than 300 students throughout the district.

This item seeks the endorsement of 2019 Dolphins Steam Day as a part of its continued efforts to collaborate with community partners in the education of students.

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

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. STEVE GALLON III:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse 2019 Dolphins Steam Day in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools.