

Dr. Marta Pérez, School Board Member

**SUBJECT: BOARD EFFICIENCY**

**COMMITTEE: FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC**

**BLUEPRINT: EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES**

Every month, board members proffer important items endorsing, celebrating, or promoting observances to raise awareness of an issue or commemorate a group or event. As the fourth largest, and possibly most diverse school district in the nation, bringing to light these topics is important and appropriate.

We also have interest in focusing our time on pressing problems like Covid-19 related issues, academic, financial, operational, facilities, etc., which currently impact our community deeply. We have limited amounts of time to conduct business effectively during our monthly regular Board meetings; and we should aspire to allocate it as frugally as possible. Recently, during this pandemic, some of our meeting are lasting far too long to be efficient.

This item seeks to consolidate yearly recognitions, endorsements, promotions, proclamations, and celebrations into one single item. These matters are typically approved by the Board unanimously. Once consolidated into one item they may be voted upon by the Board at the beginning of the year during its regular January meeting. Board members may also add new or other causes that may have been omitted. This will save substantial time during meetings, give awareness to important causes, and prepare our staff for celebrations the board wishes our students to honor.

Board members may still wish to mention these observances and present a separate item, during the appropriate months, but because these items will have already been approved at the January meeting, less meeting time will be consumed addressing these matters.

The following is a list of notable month-long observances and endorsements, that have been proffered at previous meetings of this Board accompanied with the initials of the Board member that has presented the item:

**January**

- 1) **National Slavery & Human Trafficking Awareness Month (LF)**
- 2) **Endorse January as National Mentoring Month (MTR)**

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**February**

- 3) National Black History Month (DBM) } REVISIED
- 4) Endorsement of Career and Technical Education Month (LN)
- 5) Endorsement of National Teen Dating Violence Prevention Awareness Month (LF) } REVISIED
- 6) Promoting the College Fair and Authorize the Superintendent to Encourage all M-DCPS to participate in the Miami National College Fair (PH)
- 7) } DELETED

**March**

- 8) Endorsement of March as Arts in Our School Month (PH) } REVISIED
- 9) Promote March as Florida Bike Month, Encourage Participation in the National Bike to School Day Festivities, and recognize the Bike Safety Program (PH)
- 10) Endorsement of March as National Nutrition Month and National Breakfast Week (MK)
- 11) Endorsement of the Month of March as Social Work Month and School Social Work Week (MTR)
- 12) Endorsement of Read Across America Day (MTR)
- 13) Endorsement of World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD) (MTR)
- 14) Designating March as Women’s History Month (DBM)

**April**

- 15) Promoting Earth Day (PH)
- 16) Recognizing the days of Remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust including the day of remembrance known as Yom Hashoah, (MK)
- 17) Endorsement of Administrative Professional day (PH)
- 18) } DELETED
- 19) Recognizing April National Autism Awareness Month (LN) } REVISIED
- 20) Recognizing Academic Scholarship Signing Day (LF)
- 21) Endorse Youth Crime Watch “Stop the Violence” Blue Ribbon Week, (LF)
- 22) Endorsement of the week of the Young Child (LN) } REVISIED

23) Proclaiming April as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month (PH)

24) Endorsement of National Volunteer Week (MTR)

May

25) Endorsement of Fathers in Education Day, and Fathers in Action & Advocacy Week (LF)

26) Endorsement of the Month of May as Mental Health Awareness Month and National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day (MTR)

27) Endorsement of National Teacher Day (PH)

28) Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month (LF)

29) Endorsement of the “Click it or Ticket” National Seat Belt Enforcement Safety Campaign (PH)

30) Endorse the Cuban-American community as it commemorates the anniversary of the Independence of Cuba from Spain. (PH)

31) Endorse May as Water Safety Month (MP)

32) Recognizing May as Haitian Heritage Month (DBM)

33) Recognizing National Safe Boating Week May (LN)

34) Endorses May as National Melanoma Skin Cancer Awareness Month (MK)

35) Recognizing May as National Foster Care Awareness Month. (LN)

36) Recognizing May as Osteogenesis Imperfecta Month. (LF)

37) Endorse the month of May as Bilingual Literacy Month (LF)

June

38) Endorsement of the month of June as Children’s Awareness Month (MTR)

39) Annual remembrance for employees and students who have passed away during the year (MK)

40) Endorse the month of June as National Safety Month (MTR)

July

41) Endorse the Welcome Back to School Safety Flyer for distribution during the first week of school. (PH)

42) Endorsement of July as Healthy Vision Month (PH)

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**August**

- 43) Recognizing Women’s Equality Day (LF)
- 44) Encourage the superintendent to utilize the district’s communication resources to raise community awareness of Florida’s back-to-school sales tax holiday (PH)

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**September**

- 46) Endorsement of Hispanic Heritage Month (PH)
- 47) Endorsement Recognizing “Dads Take Your Child to School Day” (PH)
- 48) Endorsement of National School Backpack Awareness Day (MTR)
- 49) Endorse September as National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month (SC)
- 50) Recognize September as Gun Violence Awareness Month. (DBM)
- 51) Endorse Childhood Cancer Awareness Month during the month of September (MTR)

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**October**

- 52) Endorsement of the International “Walk to School Day”, and implementation of the “Walksafe” Pedestrian Safety Program curriculum, during the week of the event (PH)
- 53) Promote the school breakfast program in conjunction with “Walk our Children to School Day” (MK)
- 54) Endorsement of October as National Principals Month (MTR)
- 55) Endorsement of “Ethical Governance Day” in M-DCPS Sponsored by the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust (PH)
- 56) Endorsement recognizing October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (PH)
- 57) Endorsement of National Teen Driver Safety Week, and encouragement of year-round safe driving practices at all district senior high schools (PH)
- 58) Endorsement recognizing October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DBM)
- 59) Endorsement of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (LF)
- 60)
- 61) Recognizing October as Learning Disabilities Awareness Month. (MK)

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**62) Endorse October as National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month (PH)**

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**November**

**63) Endorsement of the Month of November as Military Family Appreciation Month (LN)**

**64) Endorse November as Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Month. (DBM)**

**65) Endorse Homeless Awareness Day (MTR)**

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**66) Endorse November as National Adoption Month. (SG)**

**67) Endorse National Family Week (MTR)**

**68) Endorse National Parent Involvement Day (PH)**

**69) Endorse the “Click It or Ticket” National Seat Belt Enforcement Mobilization Campaign, and encourage consistent, year-round seat belt use for students, parents and District employees when driving or riding in a vehicle. (PH)**

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**December**

**70) Endorsement of Human Rights Day (LN)**

These types of items are easily passed yearly but take substantial time when other pressing issues are at hand. School Board Members can always mention the endorsement during the month celebrated.

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

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
DR. MARTA PÉREZ:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to present an item at the Board’s regular January 2021 meeting, which includes all endorsements, celebrations, promotions and proclamations, and to permit the observance of these recognitions at their respective and appropriate time of the year.

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