

Perla Tabares Hantman, Member

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 04-27 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROCLAIMING APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION MONTH IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**COMMITTEE:       LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL SERVICES**

In 1982, President Ronald Reagan declared the month of April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Since that time, child abuse and neglect prevention awareness activities, including a Blue Ribbon Campaign, have been promoted across America.

The Blue Ribbon Campaign originated in Virginia in 1989 when a grandmother, whose grandson died from child abuse, tied a blue ribbon on her vehicle as a constant reminder to fight for the protection of children. The campaign has grown to such an extent that people throughout the country are encouraged to wear a blue ribbon as a visible symbol of the need to commit to keeping children safe, to increasing knowledge and awareness of child abuse and to being compassionate toward children.

Child abuse, the behavior directed toward a child by an adult that endangers or impairs the child's physical or emotional health and development, affects all segments of society; it knows no socioeconomic, cultural, ethnic or religious boundaries. It must be eliminated. In an effort to help accomplish this, preliminary collaboration among staff and officials from Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami-Dade County and the City of Miami have taken place regarding appropriate activities to raise awareness regarding the issue.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 04-27 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, proclaiming April as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in Miami-Dade County's public schools.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 04-27**  
**OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,**  
**PROCLAIMING APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION**  
**MONTH IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS**, in 1982, President Ronald Reagan declared the month of April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month; and

**WHEREAS**, since that time, child abuse and neglect prevention awareness activities, including a Blue Ribbon Campaign that originated in Virginia, have been promoted across the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Blue Ribbon Campaign began in 1989 when a grandmother, whose grandson died from child abuse, started a personal battle to combat child abuse by tying a blue ribbon on her vehicle as a constant reminder to fight for the protection of children; and

**WHEREAS**, this campaign has grown to such an extent that people throughout the country are encouraged to wear a blue ribbon as a visible symbol of the need to commit to keeping children safe, to increasing knowledge and awareness of child abuse and to being compassionate toward children; and

**WHEREAS**, child abuse, the behavior directed toward a child by an adult that endangers or impairs a child's physical or emotional health and development, affects all segments of society and knows no socioeconomic, cultural, ethnic or religious boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, to help eliminate child abuse and neglect, individuals must learn more about it, support children in their communities and report suspected incidents of maltreatment; and

**WHEREAS**, our children and our community will benefit from engaging in activities designed to highlight the prevention of child abuse and neglect;

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

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 04-27 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, proclaiming April as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in Miami-Dade County's public schools.

Presented this Fourteenth day of April, A.D. 2004

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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**CHAIR**

**ATTEST:**

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**Secretary**