

Mr. Renier Diaz de la Portilla, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 09-85 OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING PROJECT RYSE AT MIAMI SPRINGS
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL AND ADULT EDUCATION CENTER**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT
STRATEGIC PLAN: INCREASE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE FOR ALL
STUDENTS**

The Refugee Youth Succeeding in Education (RYSE) Project is an initiative targeting refugee students in Miami-Dade County Public Schools, with the goal of providing refugee youth and their families with appropriate supplemental education opportunities. These opportunities are coordinated by on-site support staff to enhance local and state efforts to foster increased academic success and close the achievement gap.

The program at Miami Springs Senior High School and the school's Adult Education Center has proven to be a highly successful one, as dedicated staff and students continue to make significant gains in their adaptation to a new school system. At the school, Project RYSE is led by Mr. Alex Alvarado, a dedicated faculty member committed to helping his students succeed in their new environment. The program's goal is to accelerate academic progress and facilitate acculturation into the community by providing on-site bilingual/bicultural support to staff mentor and facilitate services that will augment achievement in both content area and career academy classes.

The Project RYSE program implemented at Miami Springs Senior and Adult Education Center is a model for others in the District for its effectiveness and accomplishments.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MR. RENIER DIAZ DE LA PORTILLA:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-85, recognizing Project RYSE at Miami Springs Senior High School and Adult Education Center

H-16

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-85
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING PROJECT RYSE AT MIAMI SPRINGS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL AND
ADULT EDUCATION CENTER**

WHEREAS, refugee youth and their families experience multiple obstacles and difficulties as they initially adapt to a new country, language, and culture; and

WHEREAS, Project RYSE aims to accelerate academic progress and facilitate acculturation by providing on-site bilingual/bicultural support staff to mentor and facilitate services that will augment achievement in both content area and career academy classes; and

WHEREAS, the Project RYSE program at Miami Springs Senior High School and Adult Education Center, led by faculty member Alex Alvarado, has significantly impacted the educational experience of over 30 participating students at the school; and

WHEREAS, students participating in the program have benefited from research-based best practices such as case management, mentoring, project-based learning, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, the Project RYSE program at Miami Springs Senior High School and Adult Education Center is a valuable educational initiative that motivates and supports refugee youth in the community, providing them with increased opportunities for success and academic advancement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida approve Resolution No. 09-85 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Project RYSE at Miami Springs Senior High School and Adult Education Center.

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

Presented this seventeenth day of June, A.D. 2009

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary