

Dr. Martin Karp, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 09-88
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE MIAMI BEACH POLICE
DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE
(PAL) FOR THE SUPPORT THEY PROVIDE TO THE
MIAMI BEACH FEEDER PATTERN AND FOR PROVIDING
THE DNA LIFEPRINT TO M-DCPS STUDENTS**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT
STRATEGIC PLAN: ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS ON DISTRICT
INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

Miami Beach Police Athletic League is the oldest PAL in Florida, incorporated December 31, 1958. Since that time, the PAL has served thousands of youth in the community. Members have gone on to become pillars of the community, including 26 police officers, business people, attorneys, doctors, and a current Miami Beach Commissioner. Just as important, many of these same people have come back to volunteer and mentor youths in our community. The board of directors is made up of volunteers from the community who believe it "takes a village to raise a child." The PAL partners with the Miami Beach Police Department, City of Miami Beach Parks and Recreation, and the Miami-Dade County Public Schools to offer after school and summer programs in their 13,000 square foot facility located in Flamingo Park. The facility has two state of the art computer labs, four classrooms, a library, fitness center, and 2 multi-purpose rooms for the many programs they offer.

With the support of the Miami Beach Police Chief Carlos Noriega and the fine members of the department both sworn and civilian, the department provides "School Liaison Officers" to each Miami Beach elementary school and Nautilus Middle School. Furthermore, PAL provides funding for a number of programs in the Miami Beach Feeder Pattern such as the "Keep a Clear Mind" anti drug, alcohol, tobacco program taught to all 5th graders by the school liaison officers. The PAL also provides funding for an annual Thanksgiving Basket giveaway, which consists of an abundance of canned goods, produce and turkey to over 500 families every year. The PAL distributes bicycles, locks, and helmets to students at Nautilus Middle School and raises money for scholarships to students at Miami Beach Senior High School.

The Kindergarten Cop program enables police officers to teach "character traits" in the Beach elementary schools on a monthly basis while interacting in a positive way with students and faculty at the schools. The Police Department supports the program and allows officers the time needed for the Kindergarten Cop Program. Many of the officers donate their own time for this program and PAL provides all funding including materials, field trips, prizes and an end-of-year carnival for all kindergarten children. Mentoring programs are provided through the Police Explorer program and the Youth Leadership program. The PAL funds school dances, field trips, bus transportation, movie tickets, and t-shirt giveaways.

In 1996, through the generosity of a donor, and with John Walsh from America's Most Wanted Program in attendance, the Miami Beach Police Department and the Miami Beach Police Athletic League kicked off the initial distribution of DNA kits to all elementary school children on Miami Beach. This DNA program, now in its thirteenth year, was provided through retired Miami Beach Police Homicide Sergeant Joe Matthews, owner and founder of the DNA LifePrint Company.

The DNA LifePrint Child Safety Alliance is a national program designed to reach millions of children across our great nation. The alliance is dedicated to providing the premier child safety event focused on the most advanced technologies and information to safeguard our children. Every 40 seconds in the United States a child becomes missing. If a child becomes missing, parents greatly increase their chance of quickly recovering their child if they immediately provide the DNA LifePrint to a law enforcement officer. The DNA Legacy Kit is the fingerprint for the future. With the simple, yet comprehensive kit, one can obtain a DNA sample of a loved one and safely maintain it for years to come.

In late 2004, again, through the generosity of donors, Miami Beach PAL distributed the DNA kit to 8,000 school children in the Miami Beach Feeder Pattern. Last month, Miami Beach PAL provided the DNA/Biometric Fingerprint Program to all kindergarten, first and second graders in Miami Beach elementary schools. This enhanced program provided each child with the DNA Legacy Kit, 10 digit biometric fingerprints, a digital photo on disk, and the child safety journal.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTIN KARP:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-88 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing The Miami Beach Police Department and the Police Athletic League for all the support they provide to the Miami Beach Feeder Pattern and for providing the DNA LifePrint to MDCPS students

RESOLUTION NO. 09-88
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING
THE MIAMI BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE
FOR ALL THE SUPPORT THEY PROVIDE TO THE MIAMI BEACH FEEDER
PATTERN AND FOR PROVIDING THE DNA LIFEPRINT TO MDCPS STUDENTS

WHEREAS, Miami Beach Police Athletic League is the oldest PAL in Florida, incorporated December 31, 1958. Since that time, the PAL has served thousands of youth in the community; and

WHEREAS, With the support of the Miami Beach Police Chief, Carlos Noriega, and the fine members of the department both sworn and civilian, the department provides "School Liaison Officers" to each elementary school and Nautilus Middle School as well as a number of programs in the Miami Beach Feeder Patter; and

WHEREAS, In 1996, through the generosity of a donor, and with John Walsh from America's Most Wanted Program in attendance, the Miami Beach Police Department and the Miami Beach Police Athletic League, kicked off the initial distribution of DNA kits to all elementary school children on Miami Beach. This DNA program was provided through retired Miami Beach Police Homicide Sergeant Joe Matthews, owner and founder of the DNA LifePrint Company; and

WHEREAS, Every 40 seconds in the United States a child becomes missing. If a child becomes missing, parents greatly increase their chance of quickly recovering their child if they immediately provide the DNA LifePrint to a law enforcement officer; and

WHEREAS, In late 2004, again, through the generosity of donors, Miami Beach PAL distributed the DNA kit to 8,000 school children in the Miami Beach Feeder Pattern; and

WHEREAS, On April 14, 2009, Miami Beach PAL provided the DNA/Biometric Fingerprint Program to all kindergarten, first and second graders in Miami Beach elementary schools. This enhanced program provided each child with the DNA Legacy Kit, 10 digit biometric fingerprint, a digital photo on disk, and the child safety journal;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution 09-88 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing The Miami Beach Police Department and the Police Athletic League for all the support they provide to the Miami Beach feeder pattern and providing the DNA LifePrint to MDCPS students

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

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

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary