

Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 09-93 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE KIDS AND THE POWER OF WORK PROGRAM (KAPOW) FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO HELP STUDENTS MAKE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN SCHOOL, THE WORLD OF WORK, AND CAREER CHOICES

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN: IMPROVE STUDENT SOCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Kids and the Power of Work (KAPOW) is a national network of business and elementary school partnerships that introduces students to career awareness and to work-related concepts and experiences that can be continually reinforced throughout a student's formative years. By bringing trained volunteers to the classroom and students to the workplace, KAPOW enables students to connect their learning in schools to its application in the workplace. Founded in 1991 by Grand Metropolitan and the National Child Labor Committee, KAPOW operates in 30 communities across the nation and serves a diverse population of 50,000 students.

More than 80 South Florida businesses and community organizations participate in the KAPOW program, serving 5,300 Miami-Dade County Public Schools students, 250 teachers, and 370 volunteers. Mr. John Casbarro manages the KAPOW program through Learning for Success, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to preparing students for success in work and in life. The organization provides several services to the District and business partners, including creating new and managing existing KAPOW partnerships, coordinating work site visits, facilitating curriculum integration and professional development, promoting KAPOW, recognizing program stakeholders, providing program materials, and seeking funding. During the 2008-09 fiscal year, Learning for Success, Inc. served 6,000 students in 60 schools in Miami-Dade and Broward counties, with participation from more than 550 volunteers from 90 South Florida businesses and community organizations and 425 teachers and administrators.

KAPOW was recognized by The Coalition on Educational Initiatives and USA Today with a national Community Solutions for Education Award for their efforts in promoting community responsibility in education. The award recognizes outstanding programs that provide learning opportunities for students through community involvement.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. LAWRENCE S. FELDMAN:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-93 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the Kids and the Power of Work (KAPOW) program for their efforts to help students make connections between school, the world of work and career choices.

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-93
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE KIDS
AND THE POWER OF WORK PROGRAM (KAPOW) FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO HELP
STUDENTS MAKE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN SCHOOL, THE WORLD OF WORK AND
CAREER CHOICES**

WHEREAS, Kids and the Power of Work (KAPOW) is a national network of business and elementary school partnerships that introduces students to career awareness and to work-related concepts and experiences that can be continually reinforced throughout a student's formative years; and

WHEREAS, KAPOW was founded in 1991 by Grand Metropolitan and the National Child Labor Committee. The program operates in 30 communities across the nation and serves a diverse population of 50,000 students; and

WHEREAS, by bringing trained volunteers to the classroom and students to the workplace, KAPOW enables students to connect their learning in schools to its application in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, more than 80 South Florida businesses and community organizations participate in the KAPOW program, serving 5,300 Miami-Dade County Public Schools students, 250 teachers, and 370 volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the District's KAPOW program is managed through Learning for Success, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to preparing students for success in work and in life through school and business partnerships;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution 09-93 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the Kids and the Power of Work (KAPOW) program for their efforts to help students make connections between school, the world of work and career choices.

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

Presented this fifteenth day of July, A.D. 2009

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary