

Dr. Marta Pérez, Board Member

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 09-126 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, HONORING ALEJANDRO R. MENENDEZ OF WEST MIAMI MIDDLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOR EARNING A BRONZE MEDAL FOR TEAM USA AT THE 2009 INFANTILE PANAMERICAN JUDO CHAMPIONSHIPS IN BRAZIL**

**COMMITTEE:       INSTRUCTIONAL           EXCELLENCE           AND           COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN:       ENSURE ACHIEVEMENT OF HIGH ACADEMIC STANDARDS BY ALL STUDENTS**

Alejandro Menendez has been practicing judo, known as “the gentle way”, since the age of four. His hard work, talent, and dedication to the sport he loves have enabled Alejandro to compete globally in this very competitive activity. This year alone Alejandro has won medals in prestigious competitions on a national and international level, including first place in the Junior US Open.

The feather in his cap, however, is his most recent achievement: the Bronze Medal for Team USA at the 2009 Infantile Panamerican Judo Championships held last month in Brazil, where Alejandro competed against world-class athletes.

Born in Miami, Alejandro is a sixth grader at West Miami Middle Community School, where he trains in the school’s Falcon Judo Club under the guidance of his coach and father, Ricardo Menendez.

In addition to his athletic accomplishments, Alejandro maintains an excellent GPA and engages in other hobbies such as working on science projects and playing video games. His dreams for the future include serving his country by joining the military and studying to become a Marine Biologist.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY DR. MARTA PÉREZ:**       That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-126, recognizing Alejandro R. Menendez for winning the Bronze Medal for Team USA at the 2009 Infantile Panamerican Judo Championships in Brazil.

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-126  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
HONORING ALEJANDRO R. MENENDEZ OF WEST MIAMI MIDDLE COMMUNITY  
SCHOOL FOR EARNING A BRONZE MEDAL FOR TEAM USA AT THE 2009  
INFANTILE PANAMERICAN JUDO CHAMPIONSHIPS IN BRAZIL**

**WHEREAS**, since the age of four, Alejandro R. Menendez, a sixth grade student at West Miami Middle Community School, has been dedicated to practicing judo; and

**WHEREAS**, Alejandro trains at West Miami Middle Community School's Falcon Judo Club under the tutelage of his coach and father, Ricardo Menendez; and

**WHEREAS**, Alejandro's hard work, talent, and dedication to judo have enabled him to compete on national and international levels; and

**WHEREAS**, an accomplished athlete, Alejandro placed first in the 2009 Junior US Open and the 2009 USA Jr. Olympics International Division; he also placed third in the 2009 National Scholastic Championships and the 2009 USA Jr. Olympics Domestic Division, and earned the bronze medal for Team USA at the 2009 Infantile Panamerican Judo Championships in Brazil; and

**WHEREAS**, active in many pursuits, Alejandro maintains an excellent grade point average and enjoys working on science projects and playing video games; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends Alejandro for his commitment to excellence and for his outstanding accomplishments at the 2009 Infantile Panamerican Judo Championships in Brazil;

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

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-126 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, honoring Alejandro R. Menendez of West Miami Middle Community School for earning a bronze medal for Team USA at the 2009 Infantile Panamerican Judo Championships in Brazil.

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

**Presented this ninth day of December, A.D. 2009**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary