

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 10-029 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING YOUTH CRIME WATCH OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOR ITS WORK ON BEHALF OF MIAMI-DADE'S PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 1974, a neighborhood crime watch group met with local law enforcement to see how they could keep their neighborhood safe and free from crime. That first informal meeting led to the creation of the non-profit organization Citizens' Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County, Inc. Today, more than 1,600 neighborhoods model the crime watch concept. Five years later, the highly successful crime watch concept was brought to Miami-Dade County Public Schools as Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade (YCW).

YCW helps to educate and train students in crime and violence prevention strategies. The program fosters personal responsibility and good citizenship. Each school year, students fill out the school safety survey to rank their safety concerns. YCW advisors and students then incorporate those concerns into programs and workshops to help resolve safety issues.

YCW teaches leadership skills to its student volunteers. In addition, students learn critical thinking and public speaking skills while boosting their self-esteem and curbing violence, crime and misbehavior. April 19-23 marks the annual "Stop the Violence" Blue Ribbon Week campaign to demonstrate students' commitment to youth crime prevention and school safety while April 20 is "Stop the Violence" Day.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools launched a comprehensive anti-violence campaign this school year, which includes public service announcements and automated phone calls from prominent community members as well as youth violence prevention summits in every senior high school.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY VICE CHAIR
PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 10-029 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County for its work on behalf of Miami-Dade's public school students.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 10-029
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING YOUTH CRIME WATCH OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOR ITS
WORK ON BEHALF OF MIAMI-DADE'S PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS**

WHEREAS, Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County, a program of Citizens' Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County, Inc., joined forces with Miami-Dade County Public Schools in 1979 to educate young people in crime prevention, public safety, and school and community pride; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, more than 60,000 Miami-Dade County public school students have received the tools and guidance necessary to reduce crime against themselves, their schools, and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County is a forerunner of the program that now serves as a national and international model for other communities that urge citizen involvement in crime prevention; and

WHEREAS, the program continues to educate students on reporting crimes, bullying and cyberbullying prevention, as well as drug and gun prevention; personal safety; and other topics related to crime prevention; and

WHEREAS, Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County sponsors an annual "Stop the Violence" Blue Ribbon Week campaign during the week of April 20, which is "Stop the Violence" Day for all Miami-Dade's public school students to demonstrate their visible commitment to youth crime prevention and school safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 10-029 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County for its work on behalf of Miami-Dade's public school students.

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

Presented this fourteenth day of April, A.D. 2010

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary