

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Vice Chair

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 10-095 OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING SPINAL CORD INJURY AWARENESS WEEK,
NOVEMBER 15-21, 2010**

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

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

The Darrell Gwynn Foundation (DGF) was founded in 2002 by Darrell Gwynn, a professional race car driver, who was tragically injured on the race circuit and became paralyzed. DGF is dedicated to providing awareness, prevention, and support, and also funds research to ultimately find a cure for paralysis. DGF's mission is to educate the community, particularly high school students, about spinal cord injuries by providing facts and statistics about such injuries, as well as common-sense ways to prevent them. DGF is the leading advocate of Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week in Florida, which this year was officially designated by the state legislature during the week of November 15-21, 2010.

During this special awareness week, DGF draws upon numerous outlets to spread awareness. Included among them are speaking at high schools, broadcasting public service announcements and participating in a variety of high profile events. At the classroom level, DGF developed an innovative program for high school students that includes a video entitled "*It Could Happen to You*", which contains personal stories shared by young adults, who as teenagers, suffered spinal cord injuries due to reckless behavior. This Program presents a wonderful opportunity to impact high school students, not only during Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week, but throughout the school year with an emphasis on key events, such as Teen Driver Safety Week and during Prom Activities.

With the State of Florida setting the national example, the goal of DGF is to expand this campaign to a national level, with the ultimate goal of reducing spinal cord injuries.

ACTION PROPOSED BY VICE CHAIR

PERLA TABARES HANTMAN: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 10-095 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week, November 15-21, 2010, as spearheaded by the Darrell Gwynn Foundation.

**RESOLUTION NO. 10-095
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING SPINAL CORD INJURY AWARENESS WEEK, NOVEMBER 15-21, 2010**

WHEREAS, the Darrell Gwynn Foundation (DGF) was founded in 2002 by Darrell Gwynn, a professional race car driver who was injured on the race circuit and became paralyzed; and

WHEREAS, the Darrell Gwynn Foundation is dedicated to providing awareness, prevention, and support, and also funds research to ultimately find a cure for paralysis. The organization's mission is to educate the community, particularly high school students, about spinal cord injuries by providing facts and statistics about such injuries, as well as common-sense ways to prevent them; and

WHEREAS, the Darrell Gwynn Foundation is the leading advocate of Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week in Florida, which this year was officially designated to be observed November 15-21, 2010 by the state legislature; and

WHEREAS, the DGF developed an innovative program for high school students that includes a video entitled "*It Could Happen to You*," which contains personal stories shared by young adults, who as teenagers, suffered spinal cord injuries due to reckless behavior; and

WHEREAS, this program presents a wonderful opportunity to impact high school students, not only during Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week, but throughout the school year with an emphasis on key events, such as Teen Driver Safety Week and prom activities; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends the Darrell Gwynn Foundation for its commitment to safety and dedication to the students, parents, and families of Miami-Dade County Public Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 10-095 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week, November 15-21, 2010, as spearheaded by the Darrell Gwynn Foundation.

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

Presented this thirteenth day of October, A.D. 2010

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary