

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 11-085 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROMOTING STUDENT PEDESTRIAN SAFETY BY ENDORSING THE PARTICIPATION OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE INTERNATIONAL "WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH" AND IMPLEMENTING THE "WALKSAFE" PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PROGRAM CURRICULUM DURING THE EVENT

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

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

International "Walk to School Month," planned during October 2011, is observed nationwide to promote awareness about pedestrian safety among students, parents, and schools. The program reinforces safe routes to schools and safe walking skills, as well as walking as exercise to combat childhood obesity. The program is designed to reduce air pollution and school-related traffic, and reinforces the importance of obeying the school speed zone limits.

The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee have endorsed "Walk to School Month", which is also sponsored nationwide by the National SAFE KIDS Coalition. According to the MPO, 141 children under the age of 15 were injured and three children were killed in 2009, as a direct result of pedestrian accidents in Miami-Dade County. Sadly, these numbers represent an increase in fatalities as compared to 2008.

In conjunction with this program, it is recommended that the "WalkSafe" pedestrian safety program curriculum be implemented at District schools to coincide with "Walk to School Month". "WalkSafe" was created and implemented by the Ryder Trauma Center at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine/Jackson Memorial Medical Center to reduce pediatric pedestrian injuries and fatalities. Both programs are operated at no cost to the District.

ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR

PERLA TABARES HANTMAN: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-085 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, promoting student pedestrian safety by endorsing the participation of Miami-Dade County Public Schools in the International "Walk to School Month" and implementing the "WalkSafe" pedestrian safety program curriculum during the event.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-085
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
PROMOTING STUDENT PEDESTRIAN SAFETY BY ENDORSING THE PARTICIPATION
OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE INTERNATIONAL "WALK TO
SCHOOL MONTH" AND IMPLEMENTING THE "WALKSAFE" PEDESTRIAN SAFETY
PROGRAM CURRICULUM DURING THE FESTIVITIES**

WHEREAS, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, promotes and encourages student pedestrian safety in all Miami-Dade County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, the international "Walk to School Month", which will be observed during the month of October 2011, increases the awareness of safe routes to school and safe walking skills; and

WHEREAS, the program reinforces the importance of reducing traffic speed and obeying school speed zone limits; and

WHEREAS, "Walk to School Month" festivities are environmentally friendly by reducing air pollution and school-related traffic; and

WHEREAS, the program promotes walking as exercise to combat childhood obesity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-085 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, promoting student pedestrian safety by endorsing the participation of Miami-Dade County Public Schools in the International "Walk to School Month", and implementing the "WalkSafe" pedestrian safety program curriculum at District schools during the event.

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

Presented this thirteenth day of July, A.D. 2011

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary