

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

**SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION OF THE 2010  
WALKSAFE POSTER CONTEST WINNERS**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL  
RELATIONS**

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

The WalkSafe™ Program was developed by the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine to improve pedestrian safety and health for elementary school-aged children on a statewide level. The Program's educational component involves a three-day curriculum which is designed to teach students safe walking skills and is taught to coincide with the Annual Walk to School Day event in October. Since its dissemination in 2003, the WalkSafe™ Program has proven to be highly successful, with crash data indicating the number of child pedestrians aged 14 and under hit by cars in Miami-Dade County has decreased by 42 percent.

In 2010, more than 145,000 elementary students participated in the WalkSafe™ educational program. Students learned about safe street-crossing behaviors, traffic and pedestrian signs and signals, and the benefits of walking daily. During the program, the WalkSafe™ team hosted a statewide poster contest to encourage students to promote the most important pedestrian safety lessons learned from the three-day educational program. The contest was very competitive, with over 200 elementary schools from four different counties submitting entries. Adjudication of the posters was conducted by representatives from WalkSafe's partnering agencies, and proudly, Miami-Dade County students placed first in each of the following statewide categories, along with 27 other students District-wide who were declared top finalists. The winning students are:

Grades K-1: Ariadna Rodriguez, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Student from Gertrude K. Edelman/Sabal Palm Elementary School

Grade 2-3: Aranzazu Bravo, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Student from Sunset Elementary School

Grades 4-5: Denver Jake Pomilban, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Student from Mater Academy of International Studies

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognize and congratulate the winners of the 2010 WalkSafe Poster Contest.