

Dr. Martin Karp Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 12-067 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING JOHN ESCOBAR

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

John Escobar is a father and business owner, and an extraordinary volunteer at David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center, where his son attends fourth grade. In his native Chile, he sold scrap metal so that he could buy electronics books. In 1999, Mr. Escobar came to the United States and is now the Vice President of Jelectron Inc. of Miami, a company specializing in control and automation solutions for a variety of industries. He is behind a major effort to create a culture of "mini engineers" at the school and is very serious about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education.

Mr. Escobar has been working on a Green Team extracurricular program for Laurie Futterman's seventh-grade class. Together they created projects to submit to Innovation Generation's L.E.D. Challenge. Last April, Mr. Escobar and David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center were named winners of iGen's first L.E.D. Student Design Challenge for creating a Classroom Noise Meter in the Best Parental Involvement category.

In the Green Team, Mr. Escobar facilitated the creation and construction of a student built solar-powered waterfall, an earthquake simulation device, and a student built vertical wind turbine that will power a radio transmitter to send messages to parents and visitors to the school. Another energy project currently in the planning stage is converting the school's lawn mower from gas to electric and having a solar-charging station for it.

Currently, in an effort to infuse cutting-edge STEM education into David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center's curriculum, Mr. Escobar researched and found a company that sells satellite materials so that a collaborative educational team (students from FIU, Alonzo & Tracy Mournig Senior High Biscayne Bay Campus, and David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center) will work together to build, program, and launch the very first public K-12 satellite. He hopes that this program will call attention to the importance of early STEM education. Mr. Escobar has already procured a contributor to sponsor the project.

On behalf of the School Board, I would like to commend Mr. Escobar for his passion, commitment, and for truly making a difference in the education of students at David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTIN S. KARP:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-067 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing John Escobar.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-067
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING JOHN ESCOBAR**

WHEREAS, John Escobar is a father and business owner, and an extraordinary volunteer at David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center, where his son attends fourth grade; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Escobar is behind a major effort to create a culture of “mini engineers” at the school and is very serious about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Escobar has been working on a Green Team extracurricular program for Laurie Futterman’s seventh-grade class creating several projects, including a solar-powered waterfall, an earthquake simulation device, and a student built vertical wind turbine that will power a radio transmitter to send messages to parents and visitors to the school. He also is making plans to convert the school’s lawn mower from gas to electric and having a solar-charging station for it; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Escobar and the team created projects that were submitted to Innovation Generation’s L.E.D. Challenge. Last year, Mr. Escobar and Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center were named winners of iGen’s first L.E.D. Student Design Challenge for creating a Classroom Noise Meter in the Best Parental Involvement category; and

WHEREAS, currently, in an effort to infuse cutting-edge STEM education into David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center’s curriculum, Mr. Escobar researched and found a company that sells satellite materials so that a collaborative educational team will work together to build, program, and launch the very first public K-12 satellite. He hopes that this program will call attention to the importance of early STEM education. He already has procured a contributor to sponsor the project; and

WHEREAS, the School Board commend Mr. Escobar for his passion, commitment, and for truly making a difference in the education of students at David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-067 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing John Escobar.

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

Presented this eighteenth day of April, A.D. 2012

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary