

Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 12-159 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, HONORING ESTHER STERENTAL AS THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S 2012 FLORIDA HOLOCAUST TEACHER OF THE YEAR

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

Esther Sterental is the epitome of a teacher. Her résumé covers more than four decades of teaching everything from English, psychology, and special education to foreign language and Holocaust studies, to both students and educators. Her career has spanned two countries, three universities, two Miami-Dade public high schools and a variety of schools throughout Lima, Peru and most recently, in Jerusalem. As a former Miami-Dade College student succinctly stated, "she really knows her stuff!"

Since 2004, Ms. Sterental has been providing ideas and resources on the teaching of the Holocaust to her fellow educators. She developed reading comprehension material for her intensive reading classes, using historical narratives and documents from the Holocaust.

For the last three years, she has implemented and coordinated Holocaust Survivor Testimony Assemblies at Miami Killian Senior High School where students meet four or five different survivors. Ms. Sterental presents a packet of poems written by child victims of the Holocaust that are read daily at Miami Killian Senior High during the Holocaust Days of Remembrance. The reading is followed by a moment of silence to honor the child who wrote it. She presented a paper about teaching the Holocaust through the use of children's diaries, journals and art this past June at the Yad Vashem's 8th International Conference on Holocaust Education, in Jerusalem.

Each year, the Florida Department of Education Commissioner's Task Force on Holocaust Education recognizes and celebrates a Florida teacher, in grades 9-12, who encourages an appreciation and respect for others, involves students in the process of Holocaust awareness, evidences mastery of the subject matter, and exemplifies Holocaust education. Ms. Sterental was named this year's Florida Holocaust Teacher of the Year.

On behalf of the School Board, I would like to commend Ms. Sterental for her dedication to teaching new generations of Miami-Dade County Public Schools students about the Holocaust.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. LAWRENCE S. FELDMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-159 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, honoring Esther Sterental as the Florida Department of Education's 2012 Florida Holocaust Teacher of the Year.

**Replacement
H-8**

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-159
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
HONORING ESTHER STERENTAL AS THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S
2012 FLORIDA HOLOCAUST TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

WHEREAS, Esther Sterental is the epitome of a teacher. Her résumé covers more than four decades of teaching everything from English, psychology, and special education to foreign language and Holocaust studies, to both students and educators; and

WHEREAS, her career has spanned two countries, three universities, two Miami-Dade public high schools and a variety of schools throughout Lima, Peru and most recently, in Jerusalem. As a former Miami-Dade College student succinctly stated, "she really knows her stuff!"; and

WHEREAS, since 2004, Ms. Sterental has been providing ideas and resources on the teaching of the Holocaust to her fellow educators. She developed reading comprehension material for her intensive reading classes, using historical narratives and documents from the Holocaust; and

WHEREAS, for the last three years, she has implemented and coordinated Holocaust Survivor Testimony Assemblies at Miami Killian Senior High School where students meet four or five different survivors. She also presents a packet of poems written by child victims of the Holocaust that are read daily at Miami Killian Senior High during the Holocaust Days of Remembrance. The reading is followed by a moment of silence to honor the child who wrote it; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Sterental presented a paper about teaching the Holocaust through the use of children's diaries, journals and art this past June at the Yad Vashem's 8th International Conference on Holocaust Education, in Jerusalem; and

WHEREAS, each year, the Florida Department of Education Commissioner's Task Force on Holocaust Education recognizes a Florida teacher, in grades 9-12, who encourages an appreciation and respect for others, involves students in the process of Holocaust awareness, evidences mastery of the subject matter, and exemplifies Holocaust education. Ms. Sterental was named this year's Florida Holocaust Teacher of the Year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-159 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, honoring Esther Sterental the Florida Department of Education's 2012 Florida Holocaust Teacher of the Year.

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

Presented this twenty-first day of November, A.D. 2012

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary