

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

**SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT RECOGNIZING  
OCTOBER AS NATIONAL BREAST CANCER  
AWARENESS MONTH THROUGHOUT MIAMI-DADE  
COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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

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

October is designated as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This month is dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer.

According to the American Cancer Society, breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in women in the United States, surpassed only by lung cancer. In 2011, an estimated 230,480 new cases of breast cancer were diagnosed among women in the U.S. An estimated 15,330 of those new cases were diagnosed among women in Florida alone. Moreover, in Florida about 2,690 women died from the disease in 2011. Florida ranks second in the nation for the total number of deaths from breast cancer in women. Currently, one out of eight women in the United States has the chance of developing breast cancer. Mammograms, regular visits to the doctor, and self-examinations are critical to early detection, treatment and improved survival rates. There is a 98 percent chance of survival if breast cancer is detected early.

Since 1993, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer (MSABC) has been the American Cancer Society's rallying cry to raise awareness and dollars to fight breast cancer. Through the leadership of Miami-Dade County, MSABC walkers and supporters can be proud that their efforts are helping more than an estimated 2.5 million breast cancer survivors celebrate another birthday this year.

It is important to raise awareness in our community of breast cancer prevention and to recognize October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month throughout Miami-Dade County Public Schools. To increase awareness, Information will be made available to employees through the District's Employee Wellness Program.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month throughout Miami-Dade County Public Schools.