

Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 13-117 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA RECOGNIZING *DO THE RIGHT THING* AND THE "BACK WITHOUT A BANG" YOUTH RALLY AGAINST VIOLENCE EVENT

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

For over 20 years, the City of Miami Police Department's *Do The Right Thing* (DTRT) Program has served as a major community policing initiative, targeting the District's 345,000 plus students. The non-profit was created in 1990 to address the problems of crime, gangs, and drugs and their ever-increasing influence on Miami's youths. The simple concept of rewarding children for "doing the right thing," led to the expansion of this highly successful, award-winning program to more than 50 chapters in the United States all operated in partnership with law enforcement agencies.

DTRT created the "Back Without A Bang" Youth Rally Against Violence in response to the Columbine shooting in 1999 and to address the growing national problem of school violence. On September 27th 2013, approximately 600 students simultaneously raised their right hands and took a pledge against violence this school year at a special anti-violence youth rally held at Jungle Island.

The fifth-grade students from eight City of Miami schools – Citrus Grove, Eneida M. Hartner, Frederick Douglass, Holmes, Lenora B. Smith, Morningside, Paul L. Dunbar and Phillis Wheatley elementaries – were specially selected to participate in reciting a unique "Victory Against Violence" pledge led by Miami Police Chief Manuel Orosa. They signed a giant four-foot-by-eight-foot copy of the pledge, which was sent to Florida's governor. The students also received an "I Took the Pledge" t-shirts and a miniature, laminated copy of the pledge.

The School Board commends the *Do The Right Thing* Program for recognizing and reinforcing socially positive behaviors among youth and fostering positive relations between the police department and school system.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. LAWRENCE S. FELDMAN: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-117 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing *Do The Right Thing* and the "Back Without A Bang" Youth Rally Against Violence Event.

**Replacement
H-13**

RESOLUTION NO. 13-117
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING *DO THE RIGHT THING* AND THE "BACK WITHOUT A BANG" YOUTH
RALLY AGAINST VIOLENCE EVENT

WHEREAS, for over 20 years, the City of Miami Police Department's *Do The Right Thing* (DTRT) Program has served as a major community policing initiative, targeting the District's 345,000 plus students. The non-profit was created in 1990 to address the problems of crime, gangs, and drugs and their ever-increasing influence on Miami's youths; and

WHEREAS, the simple concept of rewarding children for "doing the right thing," led to the expansion of this highly successful, award-winning program to more than 50 chapters in the United States all operated in partnership with law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, DTRT created the "Back Without A Bang" Youth Rally Against Violence in response to the Columbine shooting in 1999 and to address the growing national problem of school violence; and

WHEREAS, on September 27th 2013, approximately 600 students simultaneously raised their right hands and took a pledge against violence this school year at a special anti-violence youth rally held at Jungle Island; and

WHEREAS, the fifth-grade students from eight City of Miami schools – Citrus Grove, Eneida M. Hartner, Frederick Douglass, Holmes, Lenora B. Smith, Morningside, Paul L. Dunbar and Phillis Wheatley elementaries – were specially selected to participate in reciting a unique "Victory Against Violence" pledge led by Miami Police Chief Manuel Orosa; and

WHEREAS, the School Board commends the *Do The Right Thing* Program for recognizing and reinforcing socially positive behaviors among youth and fostering positive relations between the police department and school system;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-117 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing *Do The Right Thing* and the "Back Without A Bang" Youth Rally Against Violence Event.

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

Presented this sixteenth day of October, A.D. 2013

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary