

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION OF THE 2013 WALKSAFE STATEWIDE 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 children on a statewide level. The WalkSafe 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 events during the month of October. Since the inception of the program in 2001, the WalkSafe Program has proven to be highly successful, with data indicating the number of pedestrians-hit-by car incidents among children 5-14 years old in Miami-Dade County has decreased by 65 percent.

The WalkSafe educational component consistently reaches approximately 140,000 students across the county with its pedestrian safety lessons. During the 2013-2014 school year students learned about safe street-crossing behaviors, traffic and pedestrian signs and signals, and the benefits of walking daily. Aside from the curriculum, the WalkSafe team also hosted an annual statewide poster contest to encourage students to promote the most important pedestrian safety lessons learned from the three-day educational program.

This year, the contest was very competitive with over 200 submissions from 81 elementary schools and K-8 Centers from 4 different counties. Adjudication of the posters was conducted by representatives from WalkSafe's partnering agencies. Proudly, Miami-Dade County placed first in all three grade level categories.

The winners of the 2013 WalkSafe Statewide Poster Contest are:

Grades K-1: Sean Capetillo, Oliver Hoover Elementary School.
Grades 2-3: Bianca Chang, Jack D. Gordon Elementary School
Grades 4-5: Fabio Fernandez, Oliver Hoover Elementary School

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognize and congratulate the winners of the 2013 WalkSafe Statewide Poster Contest.