

Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Vice Chair

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 14-067 OF
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
RECOGNIZING LAUREN'S KIDS**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

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

Lauren's Kids is an organization dedicated to preventing sexual abuse through awareness and education and to helping survivors heal from their experiences by providing guidance and support. Studies show that 95 percent of sexual abuse is preventable through education. Through Lauren's Kids, adults and children have the opportunity to be educated about sexual abuse topics through an in-school curriculum, speaking engagements, and access to a 24-hour crisis hotline. The organization also provides educational materials statewide through direct mail. Lauren's Kids was founded by Lauren Book, herself a victim of childhood sexual abuse for six years.

This year is the fifth anniversary of Lauren's Kids' *Walk in My Shoes* 1,500 mile walk across Florida. Ms. Book walks for 42 days during the months of March and April in honor of the 42 million survivors of child sexual abuse in the United States and to raise awareness and promote legislation. Over the past five years, thousands of people have participated in the event in support of the organization's mission.

Ms. Book is a leader in victim's rights and has worked extensively with Florida Legislature members on bills to protect children and families and promote healing. Last month, Ms. Book traveled to Tallahassee for the Bill Signing Ceremony of four sexual abuse bills. Ms. Book advocates tirelessly educating communities and was named a L'Oréal Paris 2013 *Woman of Worth* for her work through Lauren's Kids. She received a \$10,000 donation to support the annual *Walk in My Shoes* event.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends Lauren's Kids for its commitment and dedication to preventing sexual abuse and for bringing awareness to an important issue affecting children and families nationwide.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. LAWRENCE S. FELDMAN: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 14-067 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Lauren's Kids.

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-067
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING LAUREN'S KIDS**

WHEREAS, Lauren's Kids is an organization dedicated to preventing sexual abuse through awareness and education and to helping survivors heal from their experiences by providing guidance and support; and

WHEREAS, through Lauren's Kids, adults and children have the opportunity to be educated about sexual abuse topics through an in-school curriculum, speaking engagements, and access to a 24-hour crisis hotline; and

WHEREAS, Lauren's Kids was founded by Lauren Book, herself a victim of childhood sexual abuse for six years; and

WHEREAS, this year is the fifth anniversary of Lauren's Kids' *Walk in My Shoes* 1,500 mile walk across Florida. Ms. Book walks for 42 days during the months of March and April in honor of the 42 million survivors of child sexual abuse in the United States and to raise awareness and promote legislation; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Book is a leader in victim's rights and has worked extensively with Florida Legislature members on bills to protect children and families and promote healing. She advocates tirelessly educating communities and was named a L'Oréal Paris 2013 *Woman of Worth* for her work through Lauren's Kids; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends Lauren's Kids for its commitment and dedication to preventing sexual abuse and for bringing awareness to an important issue affecting children and families nationwide;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 14-067 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Lauren's Kids.

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

Presented this sixteenth day of July, A.D. 2014

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary