

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 increasing awareness of breast cancer and the importance of early detection.

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 2014, an estimated 232,670 women will be newly diagnosed with invasive breast cancer in the U.S. An estimated 15,480 of those new cases will be diagnosed among women in Florida alone. Florida ranks second in the nation for the estimated number of deaths from breast cancer in women. Currently, one in eight women in the United States will develop breast cancer over the course of her lifetime. 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 an estimated 2.8 million breast cancer survivors celebrate another birthday this year.

It is important to raise awareness of breast cancer prevention in our community 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, as well as through the UHealth Medical Center at Miami Jackson Senior High School.

**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.