

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

**SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION OF THE 2015 SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL SAFETY CAMPAIGN CONTEST WINNERS**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

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

For the past six years, the School District has collaborated with its transportation partners to promote pedestrian and vehicle driver safety by sponsoring the Senior High School Safety Campaign, consisting of a Public Service Announcement (PSA) and poster contest. The Campaign focuses on the dangers of distracted driving, with a heightened emphasis on the dangers of texting while driving. The winning PSA's and posters will be distributed to all District senior high school campuses during the annual National Teen Driver Safety Week, designated by the U.S. Congress as the third week in October.

#### Contest Winners

Numerous entries were received from schools located throughout the District. The Public Schools Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST) served as the judging panel, and selected eight winners; four winners per production category. This year, due to the outstanding quality and number of PSA submittals, the CTST also recognized three Honorable Mentions in the PSA category. The submittals were scored for creativity, effectiveness and motivational appeal to inspire senior high school-aged students.

In an effort to maximize student participation, District staff secured a donation from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, in the amount of \$1,050, to provide monetary awards for the top winners in each category. In addition, the South Florida Commuter Services donated four \$50 gift certificates towards one poster and three PSA Honorable Mention prizes.

The following students were selected as the winners, per production category:

#### Poster Contest:

- Hector Pagan from Arthur and Polly Mays Conservatory of the Arts - First Place Winner (\$250 award);
- Elyssa Llanso from Robert Morgan Educational Center- Second Place Winner (\$150 award);
- Yasiel Gonzalez from Hialeah-Miami Lakes Senior - Third Place Winner (\$100 award); and
- Danellis Sandoval from Robert Morgan Educational Center- Fourth Place Winner (\$50 gift certificate).

PSA Contest:

- Joseph Marrero from South Miami Senior- First Place Winner (\$250 award);
- Dennis Hernandez from Robert Morgan Educational Center- Second Place Winner (\$150 award);
- Amanda Corral from South Miami Senior- Third Place Winner (\$100 award);
- Christina Holloway from South Miami Senior- Fourth Place Winner (\$50 award);
- Sky Tayon from Alonzo and Tracy Mournig Senior High Biscayne Bay- Honorable Mention (\$50 gift certificate);
- Becky Morel from iPreparatory Academy (iPrep) - Honorable Mention (\$50 gift certificate); and
- Gabriel Lezama from South Miami Senior-Honorable Mention (\$50 gift certificate).

In further recognition of their accomplishment, the students will also be acknowledged at the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Governing Board meeting scheduled for April 23, 2015, and their safety messages will be broadcast on WLRN after the regularly scheduled School Board meetings during the months of May, June, and July.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognize and congratulate the winners of the 2015 Senior High School Safety Campaign Contest.