

Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Vice Chair

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 15-078 OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING CUTLER BAY SENIOR HIGH AND CORAL
REEF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS' PTSA**

**COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL SERVICES AND STUDENT AND SCHOOL
SUPPORT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
FRAMEWORK: SAFE, HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING
ENVIRONMENT**

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA/PTSA) is the largest volunteer organization in the United States with a singular and strategic purpose —to serve children, their families, and their school communities. There are over six million PTA/PTSA members in the nation with more than 364,000 members in Florida. Miami-Dade County Public Schools, is fortunate to have the dynamic and dedicated Miami-Dade Council of PTA/PTSA whose strategic initiatives in advocacy advances educationally sound and student-centered legislation.

Through structured leadership and commitment to their mission, PTA/PTSA's membership support access and opportunity by speaking on behalf of children and youth in schools and community, and before governmental agencies and organizations that make decisions affecting children; assist parents in developing skills needed to raise and protect their children; and encourage parent and public involvement in our schools. PTSA leadership at two local schools exemplify outstanding dedication to this mission and are to be commended for their contributions to enhancing education and the learning environment for all children in their school community.

At Coral Reef Elementary, under the leadership of President Erica Watts, the PTSA developed new programs and enriched existing ones that provide fundraising opportunities and also support teachers and students directly. During the 2014-15 year, they set a precedent by establishing new programs, and initiatives such as the Coding Club, a School App, a donation to the existing computer lab, the creation of an Outdoor Classroom, sponsored forums to address parents questions regarding FSA and Common Core, initiated a fundraiser for the Autism Spectrum Disorder Unit, contributed additional funds for teacher classroom supply reimbursement, and enhanced the security system. This year, the PTSA team of officers plan to secure funding to outfit a playground with agility, balance & core strength equipment for the intermediate grades, supplement the current teacher-run Art Club for grades 4-5 with a volunteer-run Art Club for younger grades, build a small Lemonade Stand for children to engage in practical application of counting money and making change, encourage and reward creativity through the first annual CRE LEGO Brick Fair, and introduce the Run Club operated by parent volunteers during the first annual Healthy Kids Week.

**Replacement
H-15**

The PTSA at Cutler Bay High School, under the leadership of President Sandra Wong, is an integral part of this young, but thriving high school. From the school naming to securing sports activities for students, they have remained diligent in advocating for the most effective educational environment. In line with their belief in training and preparing students for leadership opportunities, the PTSA has had a student liaison each year since its inception and, this year a student has been elected to a Vice Presidential position. Last year, funds were allotted to send four students and two adults to the Florida State PTA Leadership Conference and, as a result, one of the students became a member of the State Student Involvement Committee and spent her time this year facilitating conference presentations. Additionally, the Cutler Bay PTSA awarded a scholarship to a student facing financial hardships so they may participate in extra-curricular activities and organized a shoe drive to benefit Haitian families. To enhance community outreach, speaking engagements on relevant topics such as college preparation, driving safety and brain development were organized for the benefit of parents and students. All members of this PTSA's Executive Board demonstrate great concern for the education community beyond their own school and have been selected to serve on the District and School Budget Priorities Parent Committee, Cutler Bay's Educational Compact Advisory Committee, Cutler Bay's Educational Advisory Committee, Cutler Bay's Youth Council Advisory Committee, as well as in county and state PTA positions. For her efforts, President Sandra Wong was the recipient of the 2015 Cutler Bay Senior High School Community Involvement Award.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. LAWRENCE S. FELDMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 15-078 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Cutler Bay Senior High And Coral Reef Elementary Schools' PTSA.

**RESOLUTION NO. 15-078
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING CORAL REEF ELEMENTARY AND CUTLER BAY SENIOR HIGH
SCHOOLS' PTSA**

WHEREAS, The Parent Teacher Association (PTA/PTSA) is the largest volunteer organization in the United States with a singular and strategic purpose —to serve children, their families, and their school communities. There are over six million PTA/PTSA members in the nation with more than 364,000 members in Florida; and

WHEREAS, here in Miami-Dade County Public Schools, we are fortunate to have the dynamic and committed Miami-Dade Council of PTA/PTSA whose initiatives in advocacy work to enhance and advance educationally sound and student-centered legislation; and

WHEREAS, through structured leadership and unyielding commitment to their mission, PTA/PTSA's leadership support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community, and before governmental agencies and organizations that make decisions affecting children; assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children; and encourage parent and public involvement in our schools; and

WHEREAS, at Coral Reef Elementary, under the leadership of President Erica Watts, the PTSA developed new programs and enriched existing ones that provided fundraising opportunities and also supported teachers and students directly. During the 2014-15 school year, they set a precedent by establishing new programs, and initiatives such as the the Coding Club, the launch of a School App, a donation to the existing computer lab, the creation of an Outdoor Classroom, forums to address parents questions regarding FSA and Common Core, a fundraiser for the Autism Spectrum Disorder Unit, enhancing the security system, and the contribution of additional funds for teacher classroom supply reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, The PTSA at Cutler Bay High School, under the leadership of President Sandra Wong, is an integral part of this young, but thriving high school. From the school naming to securing sports activities for students, they have remained diligent in advocating for the most effective educational environment. During the 2014-15 school year, The Cutler Bay PTSA supported student leadership through participation in local and state conferences and through an executive position on the board, awarded a scholarship to a student facing financial hardships so they may participate in extra-curricular activities, organized a shoe drive to benefit Haitian families and coordinated speaking engagements on relevant topics such as college preparation, driving safety and brain development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 15-078 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Cutler Bay Senior High And Coral Reef Elementary Schools' PTSA.

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

Presented this ninth day of September, A.D. 2015

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary