

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, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: SAFE, HEALTHY & SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

October is designated as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This month is dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer.

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 2015, it is estimated that 231,840 women will be newly diagnosed with breast cancer in the United States, and 40,290 women will die from the disease. In Florida alone, 15,470 women will be diagnosed this year, and 2,830 will die from the disease. Breast cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer death in women, and is the most common cancer diagnosed in women, other than skin cancer. Florida ranks second in the nation for the total number of deaths from breast cancer in women. Currently, one out of eight women in the United States has the chance of developing breast cancer. 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 more than an estimated 2.9 million breast cancer survivors celebrate another birthday this year.

It is important to raise awareness in our community of breast cancer prevention and to recognize October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month throughout Miami-Dade County Public Schools. To help promote this initiative outreach events will be held throughout the District for teachers and support staff.

**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.