

Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 15-083 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT'S ADVISORY PANEL FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES INCLUSION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT 2015-16

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS, LEADERS AND STAFF

The Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services cites 21 indicators to determine the performance of school districts. Specifically, indicators 3 and 5 focus on reading/mathematics achievement and inclusion rates for students with disabilities, respectively.

In an effort to increase the inclusion and achievement percentage rates of students with disabilities, the Division of Exceptional Student Education (ESE), in collaboration with the Superintendent's ESE Advisory Panel created the Superintendent's Advisory Panel Inclusion-Achievement Award. The Superintendent's ESE Advisory Panel Education-Inclusion sub-committee is charged with the responsibility of overseeing the process through which recipients of this award are chosen and has reviewed the merits of six applicants for this year's awards. This prestigious award highlights the efforts and initiative taken by schools to facilitate inclusion and promote achievement for all students.

The panel has selected Hammocks Middle School as this year's recipient, having increased their inclusion rate from 56.58 percent in October 2014 to 68.94 percent in June of 2015. In addition to the greatest increase in its inclusion rate, Hammocks Middle was recognized for providing unique supports to students with disabilities. These supports include participation in a mentoring program which consists of students connecting with a volunteer retired police officer and a number of literacy programs to bridge the gap in their achievement. The entire faculty has participated in professional development related to the characteristics of different exceptionalities and strategies that facilitate their learning.

Hammocks Middle School is to be commended for their commitment to inclusion and academic achievement for all students.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. LAWRENCE S. FELDMAN: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 15-083, of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Hammocks Middle School as the 2015-16 Superintendent's Advisory Panel for Students with Disabilities Inclusion Achievement Award recipient.

**RESOLUTION NO. 15-083
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING HAMMOCKS MIDDLE SCHOOL AS THE 2015-16 SUPERINTENDENT'S
ADVISORY PANEL FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES INCLUSION ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD RECIPIENT**

WHEREAS, The Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services cites 21 indicators to determine the performance of school districts. Specifically, indicators 3 and 5 focus on reading/mathematics achievement and inclusion rates for students with disabilities, respectively; and

WHEREAS, In an effort to increase the inclusion and achievement percentage rates of students with disabilities, the Division of Exceptional Student Education (ESE), in collaboration with the Superintendent's ESE Advisory Panel created the Superintendent's Advisory Panel Inclusion-Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS, The Superintendent's ESE Advisory Panel Education-Inclusion sub-committee is charged with the responsibility of overseeing the process through which recipients of this award are chosen and has reviewed the merits of six applicants for this year's awards. This prestigious award highlights the efforts and initiative taken by schools to facilitate inclusion and promote achievement for all students; and

WHEREAS, The panel has selected Hammocks Middle School as this year's recipient, having increased their inclusion rate from 56.58 percent in October 2014 to 68.94 percent in June of 2015. In addition to the greatest increase in its inclusion rate, Hammocks Middle was recognized for providing unique supports to students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, These supports include participation in a mentoring program which consists of students connecting with a volunteer retired police officer and a number of literacy programs to bridge the gap in their achievement. The entire faculty has participated in professional development related to the characteristics of different exceptionalities and strategies that facilitate their learning.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No.15-083 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Hammocks Middle School as the 2015-16 Superintendent's Advisory Panel for Students with Disabilities Inclusion Achievement Award recipient.

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

Presented this fourteenth day of October, A.D. 2015

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary