

Dr. Wilbert "Tee" Holloway, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 15-101
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING KENYA ZAKIYA HANDFIELD FOR
HER SERVICE TO HER COMMUNITY

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL SERVICES AND STUDENT AND SCHOOL
SUPPORT

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

Kenya Zakiya Handfield, a seventh-grade student at Young Women's Preparatory Academy, loves to read so much she takes a book wherever she goes. Kenya considers reading an amazing world filled with adventures, dreams, information and imagination. Her philosophy is once you learn to read, you will forever be free.

After seeing a U.S. Geography statistic that shows most low-income neighborhoods only have an average of one age-appropriate book for every 300 children, Kenya knew what she had to do. She decided that to commemorate her 13th birthday on November 22, she would create a community service project to gift books to children and adults who are homeless and in low-income situations. Her project, "Success Readers," was born with the goal to collect 500 books in six weeks. She far exceeded her goal when she reached 5,000 books.

Kenya has been able to donate books throughout Miami-Dade County to several places, including group homes for foster children, homeless shelters, and a school classroom for early childhood development. Her goal is to continue to help establish libraries and contribute to libraries where there is a lack of books available until all books have been distributed.

Kenya's *pay-it-forward* attitude has led to her being honored as a "Girl on the Move" by the Miami Rescue Mission, WIOD-AM 610, and the University of Miami football team Moms and fan clubs.

The School Board commends Kenya Zakiya Handfield for her dedicated and selfless service to the community, as well as sharing the lifelong gift of reading with countless members of the Miami-Dade community.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. WILBERT "TEE" HOLLOWAY: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 15-101 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Kenya Zakiya Handfield for her service to her community.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-101
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING
KENYA ZAKIYA HANDFIELD FOR HER SERVICE TO HER COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, Kenya Zakiya Handfield, a seventh-grade student at Young Women's Preparatory Academy, loves to read so much she takes a book wherever she goes. Kenya considers reading an amazing world filled with adventures, dreams, information and imagination. Her philosophy is once you learn to read, you will forever be free; and

WHEREAS, after seeing a U.S. Geography statistic that shows most low-income neighborhoods only have an average of one age-appropriate book for every 300 children, Kenya knew what she had to do. She decided that to commemorate her 13th birthday on November 22, she would create a community service project to gift books to children and adults who are homeless and in low-income situations; and

WHEREAS, her project, "Success Readers," was born with the goal to collect 500 books in six weeks. She far exceeded her goal when she reached 5,000 books; and

WHEREAS, Kenya has been able to donate books throughout Miami-Dade County to several places, including group homes for foster children, homeless shelters, and a school classroom for early childhood development. Her goal is to continue to help establish libraries and contribute to libraries where there is a lack of books available until all books have been distributed; and

WHEREAS, Kenya's *pay-it-forward* attitude has led to her being honored as a "Girl on the Move" by the Miami Rescue Mission, WIOD-AM 610, and the University of Miami football team Moms and fan clubs; and

WHEREAS, the School Board commends Kenya Zakiya Handfield for her dedicated and selfless service to the community, as well as sharing the lifelong gift of reading with countless members of the Miami-Dade community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 15-101 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Kenya Zakiya Handfield for her service to her community.

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

Presented this second day of December, A.D. 2015

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary