

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Vice Chair

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 16-022 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING PENELOPE TOWNSLEY** } Revised

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

**LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS**

In 2011, Penelope Townsley became Miami-Dade County's first black Supervisor of Elections, overseeing the largest elections operation in the State of Florida. She administers an average of 20 federal, state and local elections annually for the County's 1.4 million registered voters across its 34 municipalities and unincorporated Miami-Dade County. During countywide elections, she oversees more than 400,000 absentee ballots, up to 30 Early Voting locations and as many as 783 precincts on Election Day.

Ms. Townsley began her career with Miami-Dade County in 1980. She was appointed Assistant to the Director for the Department of Business Development in 1998, and served as Acting Deputy Director in 2002. She was appointed Deputy Supervisor of Elections in 2003 to restructure the organization and develop guiding principles. She was promoted to Chief Deputy Supervisor of Elections in 2006. } Revised

Recognizing her desire for a challenge and interest in promoting opportunities for small businesses, Ms. Townsley was appointed Director of the Department of Small Business Development in 2007.

As Supervisor of Elections, Ms. Townsley manages a staff of 94 full-time, approximately 1,500 temporary staff, and more than 8,000 poll worker positions with an annual budget of approximately \$34 million. Ms. Townsley has been involved in civic engagement activities with schools throughout the county; teaching our students the importance of voting and the democratic process.

The School Board commends Penelope Townsley for her extensive public service and commitment to the citizens and students of Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**DR. DOROTHY BENDROSS-MINDINGALL:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 16-022 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Penelope Townsley. } Revised

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-022  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING PENELOPE TOWNSLEY**

**WHEREAS**, in 2011, Penelope Townsley became Miami-Dade County's first black Supervisor of Elections, overseeing the largest elections operation in the State of Florida, administering an average of 20 federal, state and local elections annually for the County's 1.4 million registered voters across its 34 municipalities and unincorporated Miami-Dade County. She oversees some 400,000 absentee ballots, up to 30 Early Voting locations and as many as 783 precincts on Election Day; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Townsley began her career with Miami-Dade County in 1980. She was appointed Assistant to the Director for the Department of Business Development in 1998, and served as Acting Deputy Director in 2002. She was appointed Deputy Supervisor of Elections in 2003 to restructure the organization and develop guiding principles. She was promoted to Chief Deputy Supervisor of Elections in 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, recognizing her desire for a challenge and interest in promoting opportunities for small businesses, Ms. Townsley was appointed Director of the Department of Small Business Development in 2007; and

**WHEREAS**, as Supervisor of Elections, Ms. Townsley manages a staff of 94 full-time, approximately 1,500 temporary staff, and more than 8,000 poll worker positions with an annual budget of approximately \$34 million; and

**WHEREAS**, and Ms. Townsley has been involved in civic engagement activities with schools throughout the county; teaching our students the importance of voting and the democratic process; and

**WHEREAS**, the School Board commends Penelope Townsley for her extensive public service and commitment to the citizens and students of Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 16-022 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Penelope Townsley.

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

**Presented this third day of February, A.D. 2016**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary

Added