

Ms. Raquel Regalado, Board Member

Co-Sponsor: Ms. Lubby Navarro, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 16-037
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING DR. MICHAEL ALESSANDRI**

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, EVALUATION AND TECHNOLOGY

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

Dr. Michael Alessandri has a sterling reputation in the community as a strong supporter of public education and children with special needs. Dr. Alessandri is the Executive Director of the University of Miami Center for Autism and Related Disabilities and has been with the university for almost 20 years. He has served people with autism and their families for more than three decades. Under his leadership, the center was awarded the Autism Society of America's (ASA) National Program of the Year. In addition, he is the Assistant Chairman of the Department of Psychology and Clinical Professor of Psychology and Pediatrics at the University of Miami.

Dr. Alessandri is an expert on the development of appropriate and effective educational programs for students with autism spectrum disorders having lectured, consulted and published internationally on the topic. He has received various research and service grants totaling more than \$23 million. Dr. Alessandri has received many prestigious professional honors including ASA's Special Recognition Award for Publications and its Wendy F. Miller Autism Professional of the Year Award. He is also the recipient of community service awards such as the March of Dimes Community Excellence in Health Choice Award and the Health Services Coalition Outstanding Community Leader Award.

Dr. Michael Alessandri is to be commended for being a strong advocate for the students and families of Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Dr. Alessandri and his team ensure our autism programs maintain the highest level of training, consultation and ongoing support.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MS. RAQUEL REGALADO: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 16-037 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Dr. Michael Alessandri.

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-037
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING DR. MICHAEL ALESSANDRI**

WHEREAS, Dr. Michael Alessandri has a sterling reputation in the community as a strong supporter of public education and children with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Alessandri is the Executive Director of the University of Miami Center for Autism and Related Disabilities and has been with the university for almost 20 years. He has served people with autism and their families for more than three decades. Under his leadership, the center was awarded the Autism Society of America's (ASA) National Program of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Alessandri is an expert on the development of appropriate and effective educational programs for students with autism spectrum disorders having lectured, consulted and published internationally on the topic; and

WHEREAS, he has received various research and service grants totaling more than \$23 million. Dr. Alessandri has received many prestigious professional honors including ASA's Special Recognition Award for Publications and its Wendy F. Miller Autism Professional of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, he is also the recipient of community service awards such as the March of Dimes Community Excellence in Health Choice Award and the Health Services Coalition Outstanding Community Leader Award; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Michael Alessandri is to be commended for being a strong advocate for the students and families of Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Dr. Alessandri and his team ensure our autism programs maintain the highest level of training, consultation and ongoing support;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 16-037 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Dr. Michael Alessandri.

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

Presented this thirteenth day of April, A.D. 2016

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary