

Ms. Raquel Regalado, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 16-053
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING NELSON SOBRINO**

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, EVALUATION AND TECHNOLOGY

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

Nelson Alexander Sobrino has faced many challenges and accomplished a lot in his 13 years. Born into poverty in Guatemala, Nelson was given up for adoption and placed in foster care at the tender age of two weeks. He was adopted by Nelson Bruno and Zoila Margarita Sobrino and brought to America in 2004. Early on, Nelson had trouble showing his emotions. At bedtime, his mother had to rock him to sleep by facing him away from her. Initially, his parents thought he had Reactive Attachment Disorder.

Nelson entered kindergarten at Somerset City Arts Conservatory where his world would take a dramatic turn. School was a major challenge for Nelson who was described by teachers as quiet and withdrawn. He didn't participate in class and was frustrated when he didn't understand work. He was retained in the third grade due to difficulty passing the FCAT. Nelson was eventually tested and found to be on the autism spectrum. Together with the help of his parents and school administration, Nelson was able to make immense growth personally and academically.

With much hard work, Nelson is now an avid baseball player and a member of the school soccer team. He participates in school performances and recently ran a successful campaign to become Student Council President. He reigned victorious with more than half of the school vote. Nelson was able to break the barriers of what he had called his "jail cell".

Nelson Alexander Sobrino's life is a testament to courage, determination and perseverance. He is a role model and inspiration for generations of students to come. Nelson is a shining example of what is possible when we focus on our children's abilities not just their disabilities.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MS. RAQUEL REGALADO: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 16-053 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Nelson Sobrino.

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-053
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING NELSON SOBRINO**

WHEREAS, Nelson Alexander Sobrino has faced many challenges and accomplished a lot in his 13 years. Born into poverty in Guatemala, Nelson was given up for adoption and placed in foster care at the tender age of two weeks. He was adopted by Nelson Bruno and Zoila Margarita Sobrino and brought to America in 2004. Early on, Nelson had trouble showing his emotions; and

WHEREAS, Nelson entered kindergarten at Somerset City Arts Conservatory where his world would take a dramatic turn. School was a major challenge for Nelson who was described by teachers as quiet and withdrawn. He didn't participate in class and was frustrated when he didn't understand work. He was retained in the third grade due to difficulty passing the FCAT; and

WHEREAS, Nelson was eventually tested and found to be on the autism spectrum. Together with the help of his parents and school administration, Nelson was able to make immense growth personally and academically; and

WHEREAS, with much hard work, Nelson is now an avid baseball player and a member of the school soccer team. He participates in school performances and recently ran a successful campaign to become Student Council President. He reigned victorious with more than half of the school vote. Nelson was able to break the barriers of what he had called his "jail cell"; and

WHEREAS, Nelson Alexander Sobrino's life is a testament to courage, determination and perseverance. He is a role model and inspiration for generations of students to come. Nelson is a shining example of what is possible when we focus on our children's abilities not just their disabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 16-053 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Nelson Sobrino.

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

Presented this eleventh day of May, A.D. 2016

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary