

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA TO RECOGNIZE SEPTEMBER 2017 AS GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

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

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

In 2013, New York State made history by becoming the first state in the nation to designate an entire month to the issue of gun violence. Senseless gun violence not only impacts New York, but Miami-Dade County as well. More than 100 children in the county have been killed by gun violence over the past three years.

Gun violence awareness will bring attention to the issues of needless and senseless gun violence plaguing neighborhoods in Miami-Dade County. It is never too early to start creating awareness and the beginning of a new school year is the perfect time.

The goals of Gun Violence Awareness Month are:

- Promote greater awareness about gun violence and gun safety
- Concentrate annual heightened attention to gun violence during the summer and fall months, when gun violence typically increases
- Bring citizens and community leaders together to discuss ways to make our communities healthier.

As a community, we have a duty to provide our neighborhoods and the children that live within them the safety, stability, and the love they so desperately need and deserve.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**DR. BENDROSS-MINDINGALL:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognize September 2017 as Gun Violence Awareness Month.