

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 17-095 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING PAPA KEITH**

**COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL SERVICES AND STUDENT AND SCHOOL SUPPORT**

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

Papa Keith was born and raised in Brooklyn and seasoned with the flavor of Miami. His high energy, love of hip-hop and passion for Caribbean music has made an impact on South Florida radio and clubs alike.

Papa Keith first honed his skills in hip-hop and reggae clubs and built up his name in the streets. He was given a show on Miami's most notorious underground station Mixx 96, which set off his career in radio. After appearing regularly on the wildly popular "The Luke Show" Papa Keith was hired to host his own show on Miami's number-one radio station WEDR (99 Jamz). Three years later WMIB (103.5 The Beat) brought him as host of the night show.

Known for his engaging personality, personable demeanor, extraordinary skills on the radio and commercial voice-overs, Papa Keith has been recognized by national and local publications for his talents. Radio & Records named him as one of 10 "Jocks On The Rise" in 2003 and he was also featured in Miami New Times 2005 "Best Of" edition as "Best FM Radio Personality." According to Miami New Times, "Papa Keith is the man who takes you home smoothly and safely, easing the stress of the day with hip-hop and humor. "The Original West Indian" is a nickname that Papa Keith is immensely proud of, and he represents his Trinidadian heritage on his radio show. "I've always felt like an ambassador for Caribbean music," says Papa Keith. "Hip-hop and reggaeton originate from Caribbean music and they have grown, and I want to do whatever I can to help the music I love to experience even bigger growth." In January of 2003 Papa Keith created Island Beat - - a weekly two-hour countdown and mix show that became home to new and legendary reggae artists alike.

While Papa Keith is based in Miami he maintains deep ties all over the Caribbean. Over the years he has been hired to host parties in Jamaica, Antigua, Barbados, Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, the Bahamas, Belize and the Cayman Islands. Papa Keith's relationships with artists and commitment to promoting the music of his culture led to the creation of "Papa Keith's Karnivale." Bounty Killer, Spragga Benz, Vybz Kartel, The Marleys, Red Rat, Wayne Wonder, Mr. Vega\$, Kevin Lyttle, Wayne Marshall, Machel Montano, Assassin, Mr. Easy and Nina Sky have all performed at Papa Keith's annual events. This year should be one of the best editions of "Papa Keith's Karnivale" with Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley, I Wayne and Spragga Benz just a few of the confirmed artists.

Frequently sought after for hosting and emceeing special events, concerts and festivals in South Florida, New York and the Caribbean, Papa Keith is in demand. He has equal credibility in the hip-hop, reggae, dancehall, soca and kompa communities and his passion and tireless work ethic have taken him far. Papa Keith showcases his unique ability of being able to relate to a wide audience on a daily basis in Miami. Papa Keith also had the honor to host the launch of the first Caribbean based cable TV show called Tempo. He brought a new bringing all of his attributes to a national audience via television. Papa Keith is currently hosting afternoon drive on 103.5 The Beat in Miami. He owns his own TV/radio commercial production studio call Soundboys Studio. How does he find the time to juggle all these commitments, "Hey Mon" he's a hard working West Indian man."

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
DR. DOROTHY BENDROSS-MINDINGALL:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 17-095 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Papa Keith.

**RESOLUTION NO. 17-095  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING PAPA KEITH**

**WHEREAS**, Papa Keith was born and raised in Brooklyn and seasoned with the flavor of Miami. His high energy, love of hip-hop and passion for Caribbean music has made an impact on South Florida radio and clubs alike; and

**WHEREAS**, Papa Keith first honed his skills in hip-hop and reggae clubs and built up his name in the streets. He was given a show on Miami's most notorious underground station Mixx 96, which set off his career in radio. After appearing regularly on the wildly popular "The Luke Show" Papa Keith was hired to host his own show on Miami's number-one radio station WEDR (99 Jamz). Three years later WMIB (103.5 The Beat) brought him as host of the night show; and

**WHEREAS**, known for his engaging personality, personable demeanor, extraordinary skills on the radio and commercial voice-overs, Papa Keith has been recognized by national and local publications for his talents. Radio & Records named him as one of 10 "Jocks On The Rise" in 2003 and he was also featured in Miami New Times 2005 "Best Of" edition as "Best FM Radio Personality." According to Miami New Times, "Papa Keith is the man who takes you home smoothly and safely, easing the stress of the day with hip-hop and humor. "The Original West Indian" is a nickname that Papa Keith is immensely proud of, and he represents his Trinidadian heritage on his radio show. "I've always felt like an ambassador for Caribbean music," says Papa Keith. "Hip-hop and reggaeton originate from Caribbean music and they have grown, and I want to do whatever I can to help the music I love to experience even bigger growth." In January of 2003 Papa Keith created Island Beat--a weekly two-hour countdown and mixshow that became home to new and legendary reggae artists alike; and

**WHEREAS**, while Papa Keith is based in Miami he maintains deep ties all over the Caribbean. Over the years he has been hired to host parties in Jamaica, Antigua, Barbados, Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, the Bahamas, Belize and the Cayman Islands. Papa Keith's relationships with artists and commitment to promoting the music of his culture led to the creation of "Papa Keith's Karnivale." Bounty Killer, Spragga Benz, Vybz Kartel, The Marleys, Red Rat, Wayne Wonder, Mr. Vega\$, Kevin Lyttle, Wayne Marshall, Machel Montano, Assassin, Mr. Easy and Nina Sky have all performed at Papa Keith's annual events. This year should be one of the best editions of "Papa Keith's Karnivale" with Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley, I Wayne and Spragga Benz just a few of the confirmed artists; and

**WHEREAS**, frequently sought after for hosting and emceeding special events, concerts and festivals in South Florida, New York and the Caribbean, Papa Keith is in demand. He has equal credibility in the hip-hop, reggae, dancehall, soca and kompa communities and his passion and tireless work ethic have taken him far. Papa Keith showcases his unique ability of being able to relate to a wide audience on a daily basis in Miami. Papa Keith also had the honor to host the launch of the first Caribbean based cable TV show called Tempo. He brought a new bringing all of his attributes to a national audience via television. Papa Keith is currently hosting afternoon drive on 103.5 The Beat in Miami. He owns his own TV/radio commercial production studio call Soundboys Studio. How does he find the time to juggle all these commitments, "Hey Mon" he's a hard working West Indian man.

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

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 17-095 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Papa Keith.

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

**Presented this sixth day of September, A.D. 2017**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary