

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Board Member

**SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF CHILDHOOD
CANCER AWARENESS MONTH DURING THE MONTH
OF SEPTEMBER**

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

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
BLUEPRINT: SAFE, HEALTHY, AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING
ENVIRONMENT**

Families, caregivers, charities, and research groups across the United States observe September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. In the U. S. 15,780 children under the age of 21 are diagnosed with cancer every year. In 2016, over 300,000 children and young adults were diagnosed worldwide.

A diagnosis turns the lives of an entire family upside down. However, thanks to the dramatic progress that has been made in early diagnosis and treatment of the disease, young cancer victims and their families no longer need to abandon their dreams for the future. In many cases, advances in science and technology are bringing hope and healing where once there was only fear and loss.

During the month of September, we remember the young lives taken too soon, stand with the families facing childhood cancer today, and rededicate ourselves to combating this terrible illness. The American Cancer Society, the Children's Cancer Research Fund, the American Childhood Cancer Organization, the National Children's Cancer Society, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, are among the many organizations that annually support the month of September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

The main objective of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month is to put a spotlight on the types of cancer that largely affect children, survivorship issues and most important, raise funds for research and family support.

This item has been reviewed and approved by the School Board Attorney's office as to form and legal sufficiency.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MS. MARIA TERESA ROJAS: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse Childhood Cancer Awareness Month during the month of September in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.