

Dr. Martin Karp, Vice Chair

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 18-061 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING EAR PEACE: SAVE YOUR HEARING FOUNDATION FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO SPREADING AWARENESS ABOUT THE EPIDEMIC OF NOISE-INDUCED HEARING LOSS**

**COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

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

Ear Peace: Save your Hearing Foundation is a nonprofit educational organization. Its mission is to raise awareness of the epidemic of noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) in our country and facilitate its prevention. Already one in five U.S. teens has permanent hearing loss due to noise by the age of 19. This type of hearing loss is progressive, permanent, and typically painless so people often don't realize it's happening to them. Most important, NIHL is totally preventable, which is why Ear Peace is passionate about working with schools in Miami-Dade County.

The American Academy of Audiology reports that children with just a mild hearing loss are more likely to repeat a grade, at great cost to the children, the schools and our community. Ear Peace: Save Your Hearing Foundation is committed to reaching everyone with the information necessary to protect their hearing and stop this epidemic of permanently disabling yet preventable hearing loss in our nation.

Ear Peace Foundation, founded in 2010 by former teacher Adele Sandberg, is now in its 7th year working with Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) with the goal of reaching every single student, teacher, and educator with the critical health information of NIHL. The foundation has expended more than \$500,000 to provide teacher training workshops, curriculum materials, and filtered ear plugs in Miami-Dade County at no cost to our schools. From 2011-2018, Ear Peace trained about 300 teachers with a collective reach of about 50,000 students. In June, Ear Peace trained more than 500 teachers at the M-DCPS Summer Academy and anticipates that the teachers trained will be equipped to reach an additional 50,000 or more students during the 2018-2019 academic year.

Almost three times as many second graders are diagnosed with hearing loss compared to 10 years ago. Ear Peace Foundation provides teachers with information helpful in identifying at-risk children. With studies showing that 45 percent of musicians who participate in any type of musical group (orchestra, band, or choir) suffer permanent hearing loss by the age of 25, Ear Peace created a Protect-A-Band program that provides free filtered ear plugs to participating music teachers and their performing music students.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
DR. MARTIN KARP:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 18-061 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ear Peace: Save Your Hearing Foundation For Their Commitment to Spreading Awareness about the Epidemic of Noise-Induced Hearing Loss.

**RESOLUTION NO. 18-061  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING EAR PEACE: SAVE YOUR HEARING FOUNDATION FOR THEIR  
COMMITMENT TO SPREADING AWARENESS ABOUT THE EPIDEMIC OF  
NOISE-INDUCED HEARING LOSS**

**WHEREAS**, Ear Peace: Save your Hearing Foundation is a nonprofit educational organization. Its mission is to raise awareness of the epidemic of noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) in our country and facilitate its prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, The American Academy of Audiology reports that children with just a mild hearing loss are more likely to repeat a grade, at great cost to the children, the schools and our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Already one in five U.S. teens has permanent hearing loss due to noise by the age of 19; and

**WHEREAS**, Ear Peace Foundation, founded in 2010 by Adele Sandberg, a former teacher, is now in its 7th year working with M-DCPS with the goal of reaching every single student, teacher, and educator with this critical health information; and

**WHEREAS**, From 2011-2018, Ear Peace Foundation trained about 300 teachers with a collective reach of about 50,000 students. In June, Ear Peace Foundation trained more than 500 teachers at the M-DCPS Summer Academy and anticipates that the teachers trained will be equipped to reach an additional 50,000 or more students during the 2018-2019 academic year; and

**WHEREAS**, Ear Peace Foundation created a Protect-A-Band program that provides free filtered ear plugs to teachers and students; and

**WHEREAS**, Ear Peace: Save Your Hearing Foundation is committed to reaching everyone with the information necessary to protect their hearing and stop this epidemic of permanently disabling yet preventable hearing loss in our nation.

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

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 18-061 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida recognizing Ear Peace: Save Your Hearing Foundation For Their Commitment to Spreading Awareness about the Epidemic of Noise-Induce Hearing Loss.

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

**Presented this fifth day of September, A.D. 2018**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary

