

Ms. Lubby Navarro, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 19-014 OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING MS. MAMIE E. PINDER**

COMMITTEE: FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC

BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

Ms. Mamie E. Pinder, the daughter of Elizabeth and Burton Pinder from the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, was born in Overtown, Miami. A graduate of Carver High School, Ms. Pinder earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Education and English from Bethune-Cookman College and her Masters of Science in Education Supervision and Administration from Nova University. As she pursued her post-graduate studies, Ms. Pinder became one of the first African Americans to be admitted to the University of Miami and the University of California, Los Angeles.

In August 1963, Ms. Pinder began her career as a teacher at Allapattah Elementary School, becoming one of the first African-American teachers hired for Miami-Dade County Public School's (M-DCPS) Experimental Integration Program, and in 1965, her teaching assignment was moved to Ada Merritt Junior High in "Little Havana" where she was also selected to serve with M-DCPS Superintendent, the Late Paul Bell, to create the first state approved English For Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program for the first Cuban refugee families who were fleeing Communism by the hundreds daily. Ms. Pinder's extensive career of almost 30 years (1962-1992) with Miami-Dade County Public Schools let her to teach in various schools throughout the County including: South Miami Middle School, Miami Edison Senior High School, Shenandoah middle School, Hammocks Middle Schools and Village Green Elementary School and more. During Ms. Pinder's teaching career, she taught English, fine arts, vocational business and ESOL. Throughout her life and passion to teach children, she touched the lives of thousands students by nurturing them and maintaining a classroom environment that allowed children to grow and stimulate their imagination by fostering learning and ensuring academic success for every child.

Ms. Pinder, also later became a freelance journalist and writer for The South Dade News Leader and The Liberty Newspaper, where she frequently published columns including, "People" and "A Black Woman Speaks," respectively. Additionally, she authored two books, "America is a Free Enterprise," a curriculum textbook developed for the introduction to English reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic developmental skills at the kindergarten (ESOL) academic level; and her final volume, "Let My American Soul Speak," an autobiographical poetic account of her life, the obstacles she overcame and the triumphs she achieved as a mother, teacher, community activist.

**Replacement
B-9**

Ms. Pinder, has also received countless official honors and accolades from the 43rd President of the United States George Bush and First Lady Laura Bush, County Mayor Steve Clark, City of Miami Mayors Maurice Ferré and Xavier Suarez, as well as numerous state legislators. On July 24, 2018 Ms. Pinder sadly passed away at the age of 79. She is survived by her only son, Samuel Louis Ballinger, her sister, Turner Lee Jackson; nieces, Gabriella and Lisa Jackson; and her five grandchildren Shanai Nicole Ballinger, Samuel Anthony Ballinger, Tariq Medgar Ballinger, Taylor Burton Ballinger, and Kalyse “Honey-Kay” Ballinger.

Ms. Mamie E. Pinder is to be commended for her outstanding service to Miami-Dade County Public Schools and our community.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
LUBBY NAVARRO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 19-014 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ms. Mamie E. Pinder.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-014
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING MS. MAMIE E. PINDER

WHEREAS, Ms. Mamie E. Pinder, the daughter of Elizabeth and Burton Pinder from the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, was born in Overtown, Miami. A graduate of Carver High School, Ms. Pinder earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Education and English from Bethune-Cookman College and her Masters of Science in Education Supervision and Administration from Nova University. As she pursued her post-graduate studies, Ms. Pinder became one of the first African Americans to be admitted to the University of Miami and the University of California, Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, in August 1963, Ms. Pinder began her career as a teacher at Allapattah Elementary School, becoming one of the first African-American teachers hired for Miami-Dade County Public School's (M-DCPS) Experimental Integration Program, and in 1965, her teaching assignment was moved to Ada Merritt Junior High in "Little Havana" where she was also selected to serve with M-DCPS Superintendent, the Late Paul Bell, to create the first state approved English For Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program for the first Cuban refugee families who were fleeing Communism by the hundreds daily. Ms. Pinder's extensive career of almost 30 years (1962-1992) with Miami-Dade County Public Schools let her to teach in various schools throughout the County including: South Miami Middle School, Miami Edison Senior High School, Shenandoah middle School, Hammocks Middle Schools and Village Green Elementary School and more. During Ms. Pinder's teaching career, she taught English, fine arts, vocational business and ESOL. Throughout her life and passion to teach children, she touched the lives of thousands students by nurturing them and maintaining a classroom environment that allowed children to grow and stimulate their imagination by fostering learning and ensuring academic success for every child; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Pinder, also later became a freelance journalist and writer for The South Dade News Leader and The Liberty Newspaper, where she frequently published columns including, "People" and "A Black Woman Speaks," respectively. Additionally, she authored two books, "America is a Free Enterprise," a curriculum textbook developed for the introduction to English reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic developmental skills at the kindergarten (ESOL) academic level; and her final volume, "Let My American Soul Speak," an autobiographical poetic account of her life, the obstacles she overcame and the triumphs she achieved as a mother, teacher, community activist; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Pinder, has also received countless official honors and accolades from the 43rd President of the United States George Bush and First Lady Laura Bush, County Mayor Steve Clark, City of Miami Mayors Maurice Ferré and Xavier Suarez, as well as numerous state legislators. On July 24, 2018, Ms. Pinder sadly passed away at the age of 79. She is survived by her only son, Samuel Louis Ballinger, her sister, Turner Lee Jackson; nieces, Gabriella and Lisa Jackson; and her five grandchildren Shanai Nicole Ballinger, Samuel Anthony Ballinger, Tariq Medgar Ballinger, Taylor Burton Ballinger, and Kalyse "Honey-Kay" Ballinger; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mamie E. Pinder is to be commended for her outstanding service to Miami-Dade County Public Schools and our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 19-014 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ms. Mamie E. Pinder.

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

Presented this thirteenth day of February, A.D. 2019

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary