

Ms. Lubby Navarro, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 19-021 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING RYAN A. RAMIREZ

COMMITTEE: FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

Ryan A. Ramirez is an advocate for Type 1 diabetes (T1D) and a student in District 7 at Leewood Elementary School. As Ryan grew up, he was involved in physical sports six days a week as the starting quarterback in flag football and tackle football, did mixed martial arts, and did strength and agility training with a trainer. Ryan was also an exceptional student receiving straight A's and making the Principal's Honor Roll, ranking top in spelling bees, and receiving other academic and citizenship awards. On May 4, 2016, weeks before his 8th birthday, Ryan was diagnosed with T1D.

In 2018, Ryan became a youth ambassador for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, better known as JDRF, the leading global organization funding in T1D research, with a mission to accelerate life-changing breakthroughs to cure, prevent and treat T1D and its complications. The organization hosts a yearly walk, the *JDRF One Walk*, which brings together more than 900,000 people across the country to change the future for everyone living with T1D. This fun, family-friendly event gives people with T1D, their loved ones, companies and the local community the opportunity to come together, create change and positively impact the lives of those living with T1D. Before being diagnosed, Ryan had been participating in the walk since he was born. His sister, Ashley Ramirez, had been diagnosed four years prior to his own diagnosis. Today, Ryan continues to be involved with his own team the "Ashley's Army/Ryan's Rangers," and has spoken at the event for two consecutive years. In 2018, he partnered with *Are You Kidding Socks* and JDRF, to raise awareness for T1D through the sale of the socks for the 2019 JDRF One Walk. To date, Ryan has sold upward of 600 pairs of socks and raised over \$40,000 for this year's Walk. This year, the JDRF One Walk in Miami will be held on Saturday, March 16, at 9:00 a.m. at Tropical Park.

Although, Ryan has experienced numerous life changes, he has overcome his challenges by becoming an advocate for T1D. The day after Ryan's diagnosis, he went to speak with his then second-grade class about diabetes. Additionally with the help of his parents, Ryan has shared his experience about living with T1D, and how he learned to try new devices such as the continuous glucose monitor and insulin pumps. In 2018, an article was published in the Kendall Gazette about Ryan's story and the different fundraisers he has done to help find a cure. He has appeared on Channel 7 for a video used at the May 2018 JDRF Hope Promise Dreams Gala to raise funds for research, and also spoke at the event about his life with T1D. Last month, Ryan addressed the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners to raise awareness for T1D through the socks he designed for the cause. Ryan and the family continue to be hopeful that a cure for juveniles and adults facing T1D will soon be found.

**Replacement
B-9**

Ryan A. Ramirez is to be commended for his extraordinary efforts in creating awareness for Type 1 diabetes to his peers in Miami-Dade County and for his determination, through his remarkable volunteerism, to find a cure.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
LUBBY NAVARRO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 19-021 of The School Board Of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ryan A. Ramirez.

**RESOLUTION NO. 19-021
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING RYAN A. RAMIREZ**

WHEREAS, Ryan A. Ramirez is an advocate for Type 1 diabetes (T1D) and a student in District 7 at Leewood Elementary School. As Ryan grew up, he was involved in physical sports six days a week as the starting quarterback in flag football and tackle football, did mixed martial arts, and did strength and agility training with a trainer. Ryan was also an exceptional student receiving straight A's and making the Principal's Honor Roll, ranking top in spelling bees, and receiving other academic and citizenship awards. On May 4, 2016, weeks before his 8th birthday, Ryan was diagnosed with T1D; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, Ryan became a youth ambassador for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, better known as JDRF, the leading global organization funding in T1D research, with a mission to accelerate life-changing breakthroughs to cure, prevent and treat T1D and its complications. The organization hosts a yearly walk, the JDRF One Walk, which brings together more than 900,000 people across the country to change the future for everyone living with T1D. This fun, family-friendly event gives people with T1D, their loved ones, companies and the local community the opportunity to come together, create change and positively impact the lives of those living with T1D; and

WHEREAS, before being diagnosed, Ryan had been participating in the walk since he was born. His sister, Ashley Ramirez, had been diagnosed four years prior to his own diagnosis. Today, Ryan continues to be involved with his own team the "Ashley's Army/Ryan's Rangers," and has spoken at the event for two consecutive years. In 2018, he partnered with Are You Kidding Socks and JDRF, to raise awareness for T1D through the sale of the socks for the 2019 JDRF One Walk. To date, Ryan has sold upward of 600 pairs of socks and raised over \$40,000 for this year's Walk. This year, the JDRF One Walk in Miami will be held on Saturday, March 16, at 9:00 a.m. at Tropical Park; and

WHEREAS, although, Ryan has experienced numerous life changes, he has overcome his challenges by becoming an advocate for T1D. The day after Ryan's diagnosis, he went to speak with his then second-grade class about diabetes. Additionally with the help of his parents, Ryan has shared his experience about living with T1D, and how he learned to try new devices such as the continuous glucose monitor and insulin pumps. In 2018, an article was published in the Kendall Gazette about Ryan's story and the different fundraisers he has done to help find a cure. He has appeared on Channel 7 for a video used at the May 2018 JDRF Hope Promise Dreams Gala to raise funds for research, and also spoke at the event about his life with T1D. Last month, Ryan addressed the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners to raise awareness for T1D through the socks he designed for the cause; and

WHEREAS, Ryan and the family continue to be hopeful that a cure for juveniles and adults facing T1D will soon be found.

WHEREAS, Ryan A. Ramirez, is to be commended for his extraordinary efforts in creating awareness for Type 1 diabetes to his peers in Miami-Dade County and for his determination, through his remarkable volunteerism, to find a cure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 19-021 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ryan Ramirez.

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

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

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary