

Dr. Marta Pérez, School Board Member

**SUBJECT: BOARD EFFICIENCY**

**COMMITTEE: FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC**

**BLUEPRINT: EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES**

Every month, board members proffer important items endorsing, celebrating, or promoting observances to raise awareness of an issue or commemorate a group or event. As the fourth largest, and possibly most diverse school district in the nation, bringing to light these topics is important and appropriate.

We also have interest in focusing our time on pressing problems like Covid-19 related issues, academic, financial, operational, facilities, etc. which currently impact our community deeply. We have limited amounts of time to conduct business effectively during our monthly regular Board meetings; and we should aspire to allocate it as frugally as possible. Recently, during this pandemic, some of our meeting are lasting far too long to be efficient.

This board item seeks to consolidate yearly recognitions, endorsements, promotions, proclamations, and celebrations into one single item. These matters are typically approved by the Board unanimously. Once consolidated into one item they may be voted upon by the Board at the beginning of the year during its regular January meeting. Board members may also add new or other causes that may have been omitted. This will save substantial time during meetings, give awareness to important causes, and prepare our staff for celebrations the board wishes our students to honor.

Board members may still wish to mention these observances and present a separate item, during the appropriate months, but because these items will have already been approved at the January meeting, less meeting time will be consumed addressing these matters.

The following is a list of notable month-long observances and endorsements, that have been proffered at previous meetings of this Board accompanied with the initials of the Board member that has presented the item:

**January**

- 1) **National Slavery & Human Trafficking Awareness Month (LF)**
- 2) **Endorse January as National Mentoring Month in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. (MTR)**

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## February

- 3) National Black History Month to be celebrated in all M-DCPS (DBM)
- 4) Endorsement of Career and Technical Education Month (LN)
- 5) Endorsement of the Month of February as National Teen Dating Violence Prevention Awareness Month (LF)
- 6) Promoting the College Fair and Authorize the Superintendent to Encourage all M-DCPS to participate in the Miami National College Fair (PH)
- 7) Endorse the participation of the Marine Service Technologies Program in the 2019 Miami International Boat Show on February 14-18, 2019. (LN)

## March

- 8) Endorsement of March as Arts in Our School Month in M-DCPS (PH)
- 9) Promote March as Florida Bike Month, Encourage Participation in the National Bike to School Day Festivities, and recognize the Bike Safety Program (PH)
- 10) Endorsement of March as National Nutrition Month and March 4-8, 2019 as National Breakfast Week in M-DCPS (MK)
- 11) Endorsement of the Month of March 2020 as Social Work Month and the week of March 1-7, 2020 as School Social Work Week in M-DCPS (MTR)
- 12) Endorsement of March 2, 2020 as Read Across America Day (MTR)
- 13) Endorsement of March 21, 2019, as World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD) in M-DCPS (MTR)
- 14) Designating March as Women's History Month to be celebrated in all Miami-Dade County Public Schools. (DBM)

## April

- 15) Promoting April 22, 2019 as Earth Day in M-DCPS (PH)
- 16) Recognizing the days of Remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust to be April 9 through April 13, 2018, including the day of remembrance known as Yom Hashoah, April 12, 2018 to be observed in all M-DCPS (MK)
- 17) Endorsement of April 21-27 as administrative professional day (PH)
- 18) Endorsement of the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Miami International, Agriculture, Horse, & Cattle Show on April 12-14 (LN)
- 19) Recognizing April 2019 as National Autism Awareness Month (LN)
- 20) Recognizing Academic Scholarship Signing Day (LF)

- 21) Endorse Youth Crime Watch “Stop the Violence” Blue Ribbon Week, April 15-19, 2019 (LF)
- 22) Endorsement of April 8 8-12, 2019, as the week of the Young Child in M-DCPS (LN)
- 23) Proclaiming April 2016 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. (PH)
- 24) Endorsement of April 23-29, 2017, as National Volunteer Week in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. (MTR)

## May

- 25) Endorsement of Fathers in Education Day, May 16, 2019 and Fathers in Action & Advocacy Week, May 13-17, 2019 (LF)
- 26) Endorsement of the Month of May 2019 as Mental Health Awareness Month and May 6, 2019 as National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day in M-DCPS (MTR)
- 27) Endorsement of May 7, 2019 as National Teacher Day in M-DCPS (PH)
- 28) Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month (LF)
- 29) Endorsement of the “Click it or Ticket” National Seat Belt Enforcement Safety Campaign, May 20 through June 2, 209 (PH)
- 30) Endorse the Cuban-American community as it commemorates May 20, 2015 as the 113<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Independence of Cuba from Spain. (PH)
- 31) Endorse May as Water Safety Month in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. (MP)
- 32) Recognizing May as Haitian Heritage Month and authorizing administrative actions to foster related activities. (DBM)
- 33) Recognizing National Safe Boating Week May 16-22, 2015. (LN)
- 34) Endorses May 2016 as National Melanoma Skin Cancer Awareness Month in Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MK)
- 35) Recognizing May as National Foster Care Awareness Month. (LN)
- 36) Recognizing May 2016 as Osteogenesis Imperfecta Month. (LF)
- 37) Endorse the month of May as Bilingual Literacy Month in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. (LF)

## June

- 38) Endorsement of the month of June 2020 as Children’s Awareness Month (MTR)
- 39) Annual remembrance for employees and students who have passed away during the year (MK)
- 40) Endorse the month of June 2018 as National Safety Month in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. (MTR)

## July

- 41) Endorse the 2015 Welcome Back to School Safety Flyer for distribution during the first week of school. (PH)
- 42) Endorsement of July 2020 as Healthy Vision Month (PH)

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## August

- 43) Recognizing Women’s Equality Day (LF)
- 44) Encourage the superintendent to utilize the district’s communication resources to raise community awareness of Florida’s back-to-school sales tax holiday (PH)
- 45) Recognize August 18, 2020 as the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment to U.S. Constitution granting women the right to vote. (LN)

## September

- 46) Endorsement of Hispanic Heritage Month in M-DCPS from September 15, 2019 through October 15, 2019 (PH)
- 47) Endorsement Recognizing September 25, 2019, as “Dads Take Your Child to School Day” throughout M-DCPS (PH)
- 48) Endorsement of Wednesday, September 18, 2019 as National School Backpack Awareness Day (MTR)
- 49) Endorse September 2019 as National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month (SC)
- 50) Recognize September as Gun Violence Awareness Month. (DBM)
- 51) Endorse Childhood Cancer Awareness Month during the month of September in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. (MTR)

## October

- 52) Endorsement of the International “Walk to School Day”, and implementation of the “Walksafe” Pedestrian Safety Program curriculum, during the week of the event (PH)

- 53) Promote the school breakfast program in conjunction with “Walk our Children to School Day” (MK)
- 54) Endorsement of October 2019 as National Principals Month (MTR)
- 55) Endorsement of “Ethical Governance Day 2019” in M-DCPS Sponsored by the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust (PH)
- 56) Endorsement recognizing October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month throughout M-DCPS (PH)
- 57) Endorsement of National Teen Driver Safety Week, October 20-26, 2019, and encouragement of year-round safe driving practices at all district senior high schools (PH)
- 58) Endorsement recognizing October 2019 as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month throughout M-DCPS (DBM)
- 59) Endorsement of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (LF)
- 60)
- 61) Recognizing October as Learning Disabilities Awareness Month. (MK)
- 62) Endorse October as National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month and encourage the inclusion of year-round bullying prevention practices for students, parents and District employees in order to raise awareness and educate about the importance of reporting any form of bullying in our schools. (PH)

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**November**

- 63) Endorsement of the Month of November as Military Family Appreciation Month in M-DCPS (LN)
- 64) Endorse November as Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Month. (DBM)
- 65) Endorse Homeless Awareness Day, sponsored by the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust on November 9, 2018. (MTR)
- 66) Endorse November as National Adoption Month. (SG)
- 67) Endorse National Family Week, November 18-24, 2018, in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. (MTR)
- 68) Endorse November 21, 2019 as National Parent Involvement Day and its goal of increasing overall student achievement through parent engagement, with year-round encouragement throughout Miami-Dade County Public Schools. (PH)
- 69) Endorse the “Click It or Ticket” National Seat Belt Enforcement Mobilization Campaign, from November 16 through 29, 2020, and encourage consistent, year-round seat belt use for students, parents and District employees when driving or riding in a vehicle. (PH)

## **December**

### **70) Endorsement of Human Rights Day (LN)**

These types of items are easily passed yearly but take substantial time when other pressing issues are at hand. School Board Members can always mention the endorsement during the month celebrated.

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

#### **ACTION PROPOSED BY DR. MARTA PÉREZ:**

That the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to present an item at the Board's regular January 2021 meeting, which includes all endorsements, celebrations, promotions and proclamations, and to permit the observance of these recognitions at their respective and appropriate time of the year.