

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Board Member

SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF THE MONTH OF MARCH 2021 AS SOCIAL WORK MONTH AND THE WEEK OF MARCH 7-13, 2021 AS SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK WEEK IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

The school social work profession has consistently focused on coordinating the efforts of schools, families, and communities toward helping students improve their academic achievement and social, emotional, behavioral, and/or mental health factors by using its unique perspective of viewing the person in his or her environment. School social workers seek to ensure equitable education opportunities; ensure that students are physically and ardently present in the classroom; and promote and respect the dignity for all students.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) social workers play a pivotal role in helping bring this perspective to light via student assessments of student needs and strengths as well as in helping schools design meaningful intervention strategies and support for our most vulnerable students and their families. Their outstanding work, commitment and dedication to our students does not go unnoticed and it is a great honor to recognize the month of March 2021 as School Social Work Month and School Social Work Week, March 7-13, 2021. This year's theme for School Social Work Week is *Beacon of Hope: School Social Workers-Lighting the Way*. Both celebrations are endorsed by the National Association of Social Work (NASW), the School Social Work Association of America (SSWAA), and the Miami-Dade County Association of School Social Workers (M-DCASSW).

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 the month of March 2021 as Social Work Month and the week of March 7-13 2021 as School Social Work Week in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.