

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 21-003 PROCLAIMING APRIL 2021 AS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION MONTH IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION, & TECHNOLOGY

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

Thirty-nine years ago, Congress designated the week of June 6-12 as National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Week. The following year, the observation was expanded to a month, as April was proclaimed the first National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month. Since then, child abuse and neglect awareness activities have been promoted across the country during April of each year.

The first federal child protection legislation was introduced in 1974 as the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). CAPTA was revised many times during the subsequent years. In 2003, the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act was passed with the same purpose as CAPTA. Currently, the Child Abuse Prevention Initiative reaches out to communities in an attempt to improve parenting skills and support family togetherness.

In 1989, the Blue Ribbon Campaign to Prevent Child Abuse had its early beginnings as a Virginia grandmother's tribute to her grandson who died as a result of abuse. She tied a blue ribbon to the antenna of her car as a way to remember him and to alert her community to the tragedy of child abuse. The Blue Ribbon Campaign has since expanded across the country, and many wear blue ribbons each April in memory of those who have died as a result of child abuse. Most recently, the focus has shifted toward a more positive message of celebrating "blue ribbon" individuals, organizations, and communities that have done much to prevent child abuse and neglect.

As an advocate for children, Miami-Dade County Public Schools honors the spirit of National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month everyday. The District is committed to providing a safe and nurturing learning environment for students to flourish and thrive.

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

ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR

MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 21-003 proclaiming April 2021 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.