

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF MAY 4, 2021 AS NATIONAL TEACHER DAY AND MAY 3-7, 2021 AS TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION, & TECHNOLOGY

LINK TO STRATEGIC

BLUEPRINT: HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS, LEADERS AND STAFF

National Teacher Day honors the vital role that educators play in providing students with a high quality education. In the 1940s, an Arkansas teacher named Mattye Whyte Woodridge developed the idea of a national day to honor teachers and began communicating with education and political leaders to bring this initiative to fruition. Eventually, Woodridge contacted First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt who persuaded Congress to declare a National Teacher Day in 1953.

The National Education Association (NEA) in partnership with its local and state affiliates lobbied Congress to establish a nationally-recognized day to celebrate teachers. Congress responded by declaring March 7, 1980 as National Teacher Day for that year only.

For the next four years, NEA continued celebrating National Teacher Day in March, until it was eventually changed to the first Tuesday of the first full week of May. This year, National Teacher Day will be observed on May 4th and Teacher Appreciation Week will be celebrated from May 3-7.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools is a strong supporter of its world class educators. Their commitment to academic excellence is evident in our students' many achievements, both in and out of the classroom. Educators are to be commended for positively impacting the lives of not only their students but their families as well.

This Agenda 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 the endorsement of May 4, 2021 as National Teacher Day and May 3-7, 2021 as Teacher Appreciation Week in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.