

Ms. Christi Fraga, Board Member

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZE THE WINNERS AND RUNNERS-UP OF THE DISTRICT 5 “WHAT DOES THE MOMENT OF SILENCE MEAN TO ME?” ESSAY CONTEST**

**COMMITTEE:       ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION & TECHNOLOGY**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN:               INFORMED, ENGAGED, & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS**

On June 14, 2021, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed House Bill (HB) 529, “Moments of Silence in Public Schools” into law. The new law took effect on July 1, 2021 and has been implemented since the start of the 2021-2022 school year at all Florida K-12 Public Schools.

At the start of each school day, students sit silently for 60 seconds. Their teachers do not tell their students what to think about during that moment, that is left up to their parents and guardians. Each student is given a time in which to ground themselves in the framework of the principles that are meaningful to them.

From Monday, January 10, 2022 through January 21, 2022, individual students from District 5 schools in grades 2 through 12, participated in an essay contest titled “What Does the Moment of Silence Mean to Me?”. Students were asked what they think about or reflect upon during the Moment of Silence, and do they feel this time is useful and meaningful to them.

Gift cards will be awarded by The Chabad of Doral to one (1) winner and one (1) runner-up at each grade level.

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

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
MS. CHRISTI FRAGA:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognize the winners and runners-up of the District 5 “What Does the Moment of Silence Mean to Me?” Essay Contest.