

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 22-009 OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING MS. UNETHIA FOX, 2023 FRANCISCO R,
WALKER MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
PLAN: HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS, LEADERS, & STAFF**

Teacher in a simple definition means the one who teaches or provides instructional lessons especially when students are in school. But a teacher cannot be limited to a simple definition. Just like school is a second home for children, teachers serve as the second parents of the students who teach them the important lessons of life.

In a truthful and expanded definition, we know that teachers prepare their students for the future and mold them into ideal and productive citizens of the world. Thus, the act of giving the teacher of the year award to a teacher is to recognize the dedication, devotion, and commitment she gives toward shaping the future of the students she enjoys and loves serving. This commitment to outstanding teaching and the dedication and devotion to students is truly manifested in Ms. Unethia Fox, an Exceptional Student Education (ESE) mathematics teacher at South Miami Senior High School, who was named the 2023 Francisco R. Walker Miami-Dade County Teacher of the Year at a ceremony held February 3, 2022, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Miami Airport and Convention Center.

Ms. Fox has been teaching as an ESE mathematics teacher at South Miami Senior High School since 2003. Coming home to her alma mater, Ms. Fox has been an inspiration to the teaching profession guiding her students both academically and emotionally as they enter a new journey into adulthood.

Ms. Fox is also the head coach of the girls' basketball, volleyball, flag football, and track teams. In 2004, she served as head coach for the girls' volleyball team regional finalists; and in 2014, she led the girls' basketball team to a District Championship. Ms. Fox was named the National Federation High School Basketball Coach of the Year for the State of Florida in 2009.

At South Miami Senior High School, Ms. Fox has held several leadership positions as Mathematics Department Head, committee member of the Educational Excellence School Advisory Council (EESAC), the Black History Coordinator/African American History Advocate, and Digital Innovator. She was the school's rookie teacher of the year in 2005 and the teacher of the year in 2009.

**Replacement
B-5**

Ms. Fox received a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science and a Master of Science Degree in Mathematics Education from Nova Southeastern University. She also has a Specialist Degree in Exceptional Student Education from Florida Memorial University. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the Florida Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), and the United Teachers of Dade (UTD).

She knows and understands that there is hope for the future; that along with fear and despair there is also courage and hope. She has seen time and time again that courage in her students. And yes, there may have been moments of disappointment, but there have been moments of triumph too. Those moments of triumph have far outnumbered the difficult times. Ms. Fox believes in the future because she believes in her students.

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, is proud to recognize and honor Ms. Unethia Fox, the 2023 Francisco R. Walker Teacher of the Year.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. MARIA TERESA ROJAS:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 22-009 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ms. Unethia Fox, the 2023 Miami-Dade County Francisco R. Walker Teacher of the Year.

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-009 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING MS. UNETHIA FOX, THE 2023 MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
FRANCISCO R. WALKER TEACHER OF THE YEAR.**

WHEREAS, Ms. Unethia Fox, an Exceptional Student Education (ESE) mathematics teacher at South Miami Senior High School, was named the 2023 Francisco R. Walker Miami-Dade County Teacher of the Year on February 3, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Fox has been teaching at South Miami Senior High School since 2003, as an ESE mathematics teacher; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Fox is also the head coach of the girls' basketball, volleyball, flag football, and track teams. In 2004, she served as head coach for the girls' volleyball team regional finalists; and in 2014, she led the girls' basketball team to a District Championship. Ms. Fox was named the National Federation High School Basketball Coach of the Year for the State of Florida in 2009; and

WHEREAS, at South Miami Senior High School, Ms. Fox has held several leadership positions serving as Mathematics Department Head, committee member of the Educational Excellence School Advisory Council (EESAC), the Black History Coordinator/African American History Advocate, and Digital Innovator. She was the school's rookie teacher of the year in 2005 and teacher of the year in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Fox received a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science and a Master of Science Degree in Mathematics Education from Nova Southeastern University. She also has a Specialist Degree in Exceptional Student Education from Florida Memorial University. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the Florida Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), and the United Teachers of Dade (UTD).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution NO. 22-009 of the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ms. Unethia Fox, the 2023 Miami-Dade County Francisco R. Walker Teacher of the Year.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this ninth day of March, A. D. 2022

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary