

Dr. Marta Pérez, Board Member

SUBJECT: THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ENDORSE FATHERS IN EDUCATION DAY, APRIL 21, 2022 AND FATHERS IN ACTION & ADVOCACY WEEK, APRIL 18-22, 2022

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC

PLAN: INFORMED, ENGAGED, & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

The mission of the Fatherhood Task Force of South Florida (FTFSF) is to facilitate the involvement of fathers in the lives of children. FTFSF values the importance of fathers' engagement with children from before they are born through adulthood. It develops and promotes programs, support groups, and workshops for fathers, and male role models to encourage and empower men to become engaged fathers and develop healthy, productive relationships with their children.

Additionally, fathers and male role models are offered resources through an established network of partner agencies and support groups to discuss their fatherhood choices and experiences. In 2015, FTFSF Partnered with Albizu University to develop the Fatherhood Leadership Institute based on the Fatherhood Development Curriculum designed to provide fathers with parenting and life skills for success. Later, FTFSF received a capacity building grant from the Children's Trust to continue to strengthen its operations and outreach to serve more fathers and father figures. In 2017, they presented the 1st Father Focus Paternal Health Care & Education Conference to raise awareness of the health and educational needs of new, expectant and future dads in planning, preparing and adapting to fatherhood as well as an indicator determining healthy birth outcomes.

The Fatherhood Task Force of South Florida has partnered with Miami-Dade County Public Schools since 2014 to enhance its mission to strengthen and cultivate relationships between fathers and their children through Fathers in Education Day, April 21, 2022 and Fathers in Action & Advocacy Week, April 18-22, 2022. Fathers in Education Day provides fathers and other male role models a chance to volunteer at schools in order to share their experiences, stories, hobbies or other interests with students. Fathers in Action & Advocacy Week offers workshops throughout the community regarding father and family engagement and skill building, as well as a discussion of advocacy and legislative issues.

M-DCPS School Board's commitment to Fathers in Education Day and Fathers in Action & Advocacy week is evident from the school board meeting of March 13, 2019. The board approved Agenda Item H-14, proffered by School Board Member Mari Teresa Rojas and co-sponsored unanimously. In 2019, 233 M-DCPS schools hosted an event or activity on Fathers in Education Day, May 16, 2019.

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

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTA PÉREZ:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse Fathers in Education Day, April 21, 2022 and Fathers in Action & Advocacy Week, April 18-22, 2022 in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.