

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chairman

SUBJECT: CELEBRATE CAMBRIDGE ACADEMY

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION & TECHNOLOGY

LINK TO STRATEGIC

PLAN: RELEVANT, RIGOROUS, & INNOVATIVE ACADEMICS

The first Cambridge Academy in Miami-Dade County Public Schools was established at Miami Lakes Educational Center (MLEC) in the school year 2005-2006. Through School Board action proposed by Board Chair Perla Tabares Hantman in agenda item B-5, and unanimously approved by the Board on May 18, 2005, the Cambridge Academy at MLEC sought to expand choice programs for families in the community. The Cambridge Academy is based on the Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education Program developed and administered by the world-renowned University of Cambridge in England. It offers a pre-university curriculum that emphasizes valuable skills, such as, higher order thinking ability, oral and written communication, problem-solving, inquiry, creativity, and teamwork. A certificate of completion from this program is internationally recognized for its advanced academics and rigorous assessments.

More than 2000 students have participated in the Cambridge Academy at MLEC, 400 have graduated from the program and over 250 diplomas have been awarded. Students from the Academy at MLEC have been recipient of prestigious scholarships such as Gates Millennium (five students), Leda, Questbridge (two students), POSSE (seven students), and accolades such as Silver Knight Award and Student Advisor to the School Board (two students). Students have gained admission to prestigious institutions of higher learning such as Stanford University, Columbia University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cornell University, Howard University, Georgetown University, among many other in-state and out-of-state universities.

Consistent with its tradition of innovation and excellence, MLEC holds the distinction of having been the first school in the District to offer the Cambridge program and leading the way for its expansion throughout the District. In the last ten years, 15 schools have participated in the Cambridge program with more than 4,000 students enrolled and a total of 3,586 diplomas awarded.

This item seeks to celebrate the Cambridge Academy at Miami Lakes Educational Center for its trailblazing history as the first school to offer the Cambridge Program in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

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

**ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIRMAN
MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, celebrate the Cambridge Academy at Miami Lakes Educational Center for its trailblazing history as the first school to offer the Cambridge Program in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.