

Ms. Luisa Santos, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 22-035 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE DISTRICT 9 OFFICE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP**

**COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: SAFE, HEALTHY, & SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS**

District 9's Office Student Fellowship is an opportunity for students to use their voices and lived experiences to be changemakers in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) system while developing professionally. High school and college students can join or lead one of four teams: Policy, Communications, Relational Organizing, and People Operations. The mission of the program is to equip a group of students that mirrors the diversity of the M-DCPS community with the knowledge and skills to effectuate change while building an inclusive and equity-centered program where students' voices are amplified.

During the inaugural class, Class I, fellows built the Student Fellowship from the ground up. From helping create office maxims to establishing core activities, these fellows were instrumental in creating a vision for the Fellowship, developing every part of this impactful program, and creating a community of mission-driven students.

As the fellowship progressed, returning fellows evaluated their previous experiences and helped determine what elements should continue in the program. Through their work, fellows gained skills such as project management, people management, time management, stress management, and effective communication. Fellows and team leads were also integral in developing the sense of community and expectation of excellence within the Fellowship. Co-leads have attested that the fellowship created a culture that allowed for unity, unconditional support, personal bonds, and task efficiency.

Over the course of the first three classes, fellows researched and drafted two successful M-DCPS Board items, tracked over 200 state legislative bills, connected with over 800 constituents via the Office's Listening Campaign, staffed over twenty of School Board Member Santos' engagements, drafted over 400 congratulatory letters, grew and maintained the office's social media presence, prepared Ms. Santos for press events and School Board Meetings, and hosted over forty fellowship-wide meetings that provided professional development and meaningful opportunities to connect with community leaders, such as Senator Jason Pizzo and State Representatives Vance Aloupis and Dotie Joseph.

After leaving the Fellowship, fellows stay committed to community service and leadership. Alumni of the program include nationally recognized community leaders, teachers, educational mentors, Student Government Association Officers, Class Officers, and higher education scholars. Fellowship alumni attribute their continued educational journeys and increased leadership within the community to their time within the program. They continue to work together across their various sectors for the betterment of their communities.

With over 100 alumni from across the country the fellowship is, and will continue to be, an avenue for students to be "in the room where it happens". The following team leads and fellows supported the creation and development of the program with the goal of ensuring that M-DCPS fulfills its vision of "inspired, valued, educated, and empowered students thriving in and beyond the classroom" for generations to come:

#### **Class I Team Leads**

Bridget Lee, Emma Pereda, Katy Cook, Kezia Moros-Achong, Kristen Valzadilla, Melanie Rodriguez, Zeean Firmeza

#### **Class I Fellows**

Alexa Canales, Amber Gordon, Amber Robinson, Andrea Paipa, Andres Camacho, Ariel Scheinblum, Camila Chicaiza, Chaitra Kota, Christopher Colindres, Claudia Triana, Elizabeth Pereira, Emily Corgan, Eric Parrilla, Estela Rodriguez, Frank Rivero, Ian Malesiewski, Jenniffer Rivera Galindo, Kaylin Diaz, Kyomi Cabral, Lara Gastelumendi, Max Ulloa, Maya Alvarez, Olivia Martin-Johnson, Samantha Gitlin, Sean Greene, Sofia Bohorquez, Sofia Vizcarra, Stacy Rodriguez, Susana Lugones, Sylvia Rodriguez

#### **Class II Team Leads**

Amber Gordon, Claudia Triana, Elizabeth Pereira, Kezia Moros-Achong, Melanie Rodriguez, Susana Lugones, Zeean Firmeza

#### **Class II Fellows**

Adriana Olea, Aiyana St. Hilaire, Ameerah Balogun, Ana Martinez, Angelina Astic, Ariel Scheinblum, Betania Arce, Brandon Elias, Brianna Paliz, Calvin Marengo, Camila Cruz, Cayetana Jaramillo, Chaitra Kota, Darling Gomera-Arias, Destiny Arias, Diana Carrera, Edward Cortez, Eric Parrilla, Fabiana Montenegro, Gabriella Puig, Ian Malesiewski, Isabella Martin, Jailyn Giron-Khalil, Janaysa Dorcin, Jason Salguero, Joi Turner, Jonya Moore, Justine Cotiere, Keenonjon Gascon, Lara Gastelumendi, Lelydeyvis Boza, Luke Yang, Marville Marcelin, Massiel Melian, Matthew Badillo, Maya Alvarez, Melanie Guerrero, Melanie Vazquez, Olivia Martin-Johnson, Paolina Salas, Samantha Gitlin, Shea Hanna, Sophi Martinez, Sylvia Rodriguez, Yesenia Cruz, Yvette Guerra

#### **Class III Team Leads**

Destiny Arias, Fabiana Montenegro, Jordan Cancel, Keenonjon Gascon, Lara Gastelumendi, Lelydeyvis Boza, and Marwa Katir

#### **Class III Fellows**

Alexander Castro, Alexandra

Lorente, Allyson Abarca, Angelina Astic, Branden Damus, Brandon Elias, Briannya Evans, Cyntia Roig, Daniela Fernandez, Danielle Leon, Darling Gomera-Arias, Imara Alabre, Isabella Marin, Isabella Santa, Ismaray Govea, Jacqueline Perez, Jailyn Giron-Khalil, Jake Harris, Janaysa Dorcin, Jonya Moore, Jordan Demeritte, Josslyn Caballero, Justin Fechter, Justine Cotiere, Laura Castellon, Liliana Boza, Luis Gomez, Maeva Dalce, Melanie Guerrero, Melanie Maytin, Melissa Murray, Nikirea Guyton, Rigel Gonzalez, Sebastian Perez, Victoria Ceballos, Whitney Souffrant, Yoseline Perez, Youbin Park.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY MS. LUISA SANTOS:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 22-035 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the District 9 Office Student Fellowship.

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-035  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING THE DISTRICT 9 OFFICE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP**

**WHEREAS**, District 9's Office Student Fellowship is an opportunity for students to use their voices and lived experiences to be changemakers in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) system while developing professionally. High school and college students can join or lead one of four teams: Policy, Communications, Relational Organizing, and People Operations; and

**WHEREAS**, The mission of the program is to equip a group of students that mirrors the diversity of the M-DCPS community with the knowledge and skills to effectuate change while building an inclusive and equity-centered program where students' voices are amplified; and

**WHEREAS**, Over the course of the first three classes, fellows researched and drafted two successful M-DCPS Board items, tracked over 200 state legislative bills, connected with over 800 constituents via the Office's Listening Campaign, staffed over twenty of School Board Member Santos' engagements, drafted over 400 congratulatory letters, grew and maintained the office's social media presence, prepared Ms. Santos for press events and School Board Meetings, and hosted over forty fellowship-wide meetings that provided professional development and meaningful opportunities to connect with community leaders, such as Senator Jason Pizzo and State Representatives Vance Aloupis and Dotie Joseph; and

**WHEREAS**, After leaving the Fellowship, fellows stay committed to community service and leadership. Alumni of the program include nationally recognized community leaders, teachers, educational mentors, Student Government Association Officers, Class Officers, and higher education scholars. Fellowship alumni attribute their continued educational journeys and increased leadership within the community to their time within the program. They continue to work together across their various sectors for the betterment of their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, With over 100 alumni from across the country the fellowship is, and will continue to be, an avenue for students to be "in the room where it happens". The following team leads and fellows supported the creation and development of the program with the goal of ensuring that M-DCPS fulfills its vision of "inspired, valued, educated, and empowered students thriving in and beyond the classroom" for generations to come; and

**WHEREAS**, Class I was composed of Team Leads Bridget Lee, Emma Pereda, Katy Cook, Kezia Moros-Achong, Kristen Valzadilla, Melanie Rodriguez, Zeean Firmeza and Fellows Alexa Canales, Amber Gordon, Amber Robinson, Andrea Paipa, Andres Camacho, Ariel Scheinblum, Camila Chicaiza, Chaitra Kota, Christopher Colindres, Claudia Triana, Elizabeth Pereira, Emily Corgan, Eric Parrilla, Estela Rodriguez, Frank Rivero, Ian Malesiewski, Jenniffer Rivera Galindo, Kaylin Diaz, Kyomi Cabral, Lara Gastelumendi, Max Ulloa, Maya Alvarez, Olivia Martin-Johnson, Samantha Gitlin, Sean Greene, Sofia Bohorquez, Sofia Vizcarra, Stacy Rodriguez, Susana Lugones, Sylvia Rodriguez, and;

**WHEREAS**, Class II was composed of Team Leads Amber Gordon, Claudia Triana, Elizabeth Pereira, Kezia Moros-Achong, Melanie Rodriguez, Susana Lugones, Zeean Firmeza and Fellows Adriana Olea, Aiyana St. Hilaire, Ameerah Balogun, Ana Martinez, Angelina Astic, Ariel Scheinblum, Betania Arce, Brandon Elias, Brianna Paliz, Calvin Marengo, Camila Cruz, Cayetana Jaramillo, Chaitra Kota, Darling Gomera-Arias, Destiny Arias, Diana Carrera, Edward Cortez, Eric Parrilla, Fabiana Montenegro, Gabriella Puig, Ian Malesiewski, Isabella Martin, Jailyn Giron-

Khalil, Janaysa Dorcin, Jason Salguero, Joi Turner, Jonya Moore, Justine Cotiere, Keenonjon Gascon, Lara Gastelumendi, Lelydeyvis Boza, Luke Yang, Marville Marcelin, Massiel Melian, Matthew Badillo, Maya Alvarez, Melanie Guerrero, Melanie Vazquez, Olivia Martin-Johnson, Paolina Salas, Samantha Gitlin, Shea Hanna, Sophi Martinez, Sylvia Rodriguez, Yesenia Cruz, Yvette Guerra, and;

**WHEREAS**, Class III was composed of Team Leads Destiny Arias, Fabiana Montenegro, Jordan Cancel, Keenonjon Gascon, Lara Gastelumendi, Lelydeyvis Boza, and Marwa Katir and Fellows Alexander Castro, Alexandra Lorente, Allyson Abarca, Angelina Astic, Branden Damus, Brandon Elias, Briannya Evans, Cyntia Roig, Daniela Fernandez, Danielle Leon, Darling Gomera-Arias, Imara Alabre, Isabella Marin, Isabella Santa, Ismaray Govea, Jacqueline Perez, Jailyn Giron-Khalil, Jake Harris, Janaysa Dorcin, Jonya Moore, Jordan Demeritte, Josslyn Caballero, Justin Fechter, Justine Cotiere, Laura Castellon, Liliana Boza, Luis Gomez, Maeva Dalce, Melanie Guerrero, Melanie Maytin, Melissa Murray, Nikirea Guyton, Rigel Gonzalez, Sebastian Perez, Victoria Ceballos, Whitney Souffrant, Yoseline Perez, Youbin Park.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approves Resolution No. 22-035 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the District 9 Office Student Fellowship.

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

**Presented this 15th day of August, A.D. 2022.**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary