

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chairman

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 22-037 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING DR. KAMELA PATTON

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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

Dr. Kamela Patton is a consummate professional educator, currently in her twelfth year as Superintendent of Collier County Public Schools (CCPS), a position she has held since her appointment in 2011. Under the leadership of Dr. Patton, CCPS has focused on increasing programming and improving academic achievement for all students. Dr. Patton has spearheaded the expansion and enhancement of existing educational programs, instituted new technological tools, improved internal and external communications, and introduced new initiatives, resulting on a direct increase in student achievement, as well as improved performance on state standardized tests.

For the second year in row, CCPS has outperformed the state in all 21 of 21 tested areas. The percentage of students exceeding the state average has skyrocketed to 100% in 2022 from 30% in 2011. Under Dr. Patton’s direction, CCPS has experienced a 20.2% increase in graduation rates, from 72.5% in 2011 to 92.7% in 2021. The district improved its educational ranking to tie for 5th in the State from 33rd just eleven years ago. Additionally, CCPS is 1 of only 5 of Florida’s 67 counties to earn a consecutive “A” since 2017.

Although academic success has been the key focus of Dr. Patton’s tenure as Superintendent, under her leadership the district has adopted a plan to be debt free within 4 years, a time frame that includes building a new high school and saving taxpayers \$41 million in interest. As part of the new three-year strategic plan created under Dr. Patton’s direction, the school district is focused on preparing students to be College, Career, and Life Ready. This will be accomplished through an emphasis on academics, culture, and leadership while also highlighting the importance of a high-quality staff with a strong succession management plan, fiscal responsibility, and communication.

Over the past eleven years, Dr. Patton has received several accolades and awards. Most recently, Dr. Patton was recognized by the Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS) as the Superintendent of the Year and was named one of four finalists for the National Superintendent of the Year for AASA – The School Superintendents Association.

She also received the 2021 Naples Daily News Outstanding Citizen of the Year, 50 Florida Influencers, Naples Top 100 Distinction (2019 and 2020), Americans United Annual Civic Award, Leadership Collier Distinguished Alumni Award, Naples Illustrated Top 100, Excellence in Civic Leadership Award, the 2018 Lavan Dukes District Data Leader of the Year Award, the 2018 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Distinguished Leader Award, the 2018 Florida Music Education Association (FMEA) Superintendent of the Year Award, and received the prestigious honor of being the 2017 Star Superintendent from the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations.

Additionally, Dr. Patton was also named one of Naples Illustrated 20 Leading Ladies of Naples along with being named a 2017 Gulfshore Life Magazine Men and Women of the Year honoree, as well as being recognized as a Woman of Distinction in History for Diversity and an eSchool Learning National Tech-Savvy Superintendent Award Winner. She is the recipient of the Salvation Army Partners in Mission Award, the Boys & Girls Club Paragon Award, the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award from Messiah University, and the Sunshine State School Public Relations Association (SUNSPRA) Outstanding Superintendent Communicator Award. Dr. Patton was named by Gulfshore Business as one of the 41 People with the Most Clout in Southwest Florida and a Power Woman by Florida Weekly magazine. She is a member of numerous local boards and a graduate of Leadership Florida, Leadership Collier and the FBI Citizens Academy.

A native of Kalamazoo, Michigan, Dr. Kamela Patton's remarkable career in education began more than three decades ago in Miami-Dade County Public Schools, where she served for almost 25 years in different academic and administrative positions, including teacher, assistant principal, principal, region administrative director, and assistant superintendent. She holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Messiah College; a master's degree in Reading from Nova Southeastern University; and a PhD in Educational Leadership from University of Miami.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 22-037 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Dr. Kamela Patton.

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-037 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING DR. KAMELA PATTON**

WHEREAS, Dr. Kamela Patton is a consummate professional educator in her twelfth year as Superintendent of Collier County Public Schools (CCPS), a position she has held since her appointment 2011. Under the leadership of Dr. Patton, CCPS has focused on increasing programming and improving academic achievement for all students. Dr. Patton has spearheaded the expansion and enhancement of existing educational programs, instituted new technological tools, improved internal and external communications, and introduced new initiatives, resulting on a direct increase in student achievement, as well as improved performance on state standardized tests;

WHEREAS, although academic success has been the key focus of Dr. Patton's tenure as Superintendent, under her leadership the district has adopted a plan to be debt free within 4 years, a time frame that includes building a new high school and saving taxpayers \$41 million in interest. As part of the new three-year strategic plan created under Dr. Patton's direction, the school district is focused on preparing students to be College, Career, and Life Ready. This will be accomplished through an emphasis on academics, culture, and leadership while also highlighting the importance of a high-quality staff with a strong succession management plan, fiscal responsibility, and communication;

WHEREAS, over the past eleven years, Dr. Patton has received several accolades and awards. Most recently, Dr. Patton was recognized by the Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS) as the Superintendent of the Year and was named one of four finalists for the National Superintendent of the Year for AASA – The School Superintendents Association; and

WHEREAS, a native of Kalamazoo, Michigan, Dr. Kamela Patton's remarkable career in education began more than three decades ago in Miami-Dade County Public Schools, where she served for almost 25 years in different academic and administrative positions. She holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Messiah College; a master's degree in Reading from Nova Southeastern University; and a PhD in Educational Leadership from University of Miami.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 22-037 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Dr. Kamela Patton.

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

Presented this seventh day of September, A.D. 2022

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary