

Ms. Luisa Santos, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 22-042 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING ORLANDO GONZALES

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: INFORMED, ENGAGED, & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

Orlando Gonzales is the embodiment of a leader in public service. As a champion of social justice for all members of our community, he has been involved with businesses and non-profit organizations with an impact on both the local and national levels. Orlando has dedicated his career to organizations that promote human rights, the educational advancement of people of color, and the LGBTQ+ community.

Born into a Mexican-American family in El Paso, Texas, Orlando attended public schools throughout his primary and secondary educational journey. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in sociology from Georgetown University in Washington, DC, and a Master of Public Administration with honors from City University of New York's Austin W. Marxe School of Public and International Affairs at The Bernard Baruch College. As a National Urban Fellow, he successfully completed a fellowship at the Aetna Foundation in Hartford, CT. He has also served on the Board of Trustees for the Point Foundation, the Chair of FIU Honors College's Community Advisory Board, and has been an active alumnus of Georgetown University and the National Urban Fellows program.

Orlando's first professional role was as a school yearbook publisher where he worked with 85% of Miami-Dade County high schools. As he worked to strengthen their yearbook programs, he placed emphasis on teaching students design, photography, theme and marketing. He continues to be an advocate for scholastic journalism, including the protected rights and responsibilities under the First Amendment.

Later on, Orlando served as the Chief of Staff and Communications Operations Manager at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) in Washington, DC. While at PCORI, Orlando worked on increasing patient and stakeholder engagement in research funding, collaborated to develop a dissemination and implementation framework for research findings, and developed a process for more efficient and effective patient and peer review uptake.

Currently, Orlando serves as the Executive Director of Safeguarding American Values for Everyone (SAVE). In this role he works to advance SAVE's mission to promote, protect and defend equality for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities in South Florida. He is a tireless advocate working to turn the tide on discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals and reduce prejudice toward the LGBTQ+ community.

**Replacement
B-5**

He has earned multiple recognitions and awards for his work in our community. In 2021 Orlando's achievements earned him the Georgetown University William Gaston Alumni Award, an award given to outstanding alumni of the university who exemplify service. He was recently recognized by the Florida Panthers as a South Florida community member making a difference through their "Celebration of Hispanic Excellence" series as a result of his public service.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. LUISA SANTOS:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 22-042 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Orlando Gonzales.

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 22-042
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING ORLANDO GONZALES**

WHEREAS, Orlando Gonzales is the embodiment of a leader in public service. As a champion of social justice for all members of our community, he has been involved with businesses and non-profit organizations with an impact on both the local and national levels. Orlando has dedicated his career to organizations that promote human rights, the educational advancement of people of color, and the LGBTQ+ community; and

WHEREAS, Born into a Mexican-American family in El Paso, Texas, Orlando attended public schools throughout his primary and secondary educational journey. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in sociology from Georgetown University in Washington, DC, and a Master of Public Administration with honors from City University of New York's Austin W. Marxe School of Public and International Affairs at The Bernard Baruch College. As a National Urban Fellow, he successfully completed a fellowship at the Aetna Foundation in Hartford, CT. He has also served on the Board of Trustees for the Point Foundation, the Chair of FIU Honors College's Community Advisory Board, and has been an active alumnus of Georgetown University and the National Urban Fellows program; and

WHEREAS, Orlando's first professional role was as a school yearbook publisher where he worked with 85% of Miami-Dade County high schools. As he worked to strengthen their yearbook programs, he placed emphasis on teaching students design, photography, theme and marketing. He continues to be an advocate for scholastic journalism, including the protected rights and responsibilities under the First Amendment; and

WHEREAS, Later on, Orlando served as the Chief of Staff and Communications Operations Manager at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) in Washington, DC. While at PCORI, Orlando worked on increasing patient and stakeholder engagement in research funding, collaborated to develop a dissemination and implementation framework for research findings, and developed a process for more efficient and effective patient and peer review uptake; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Orlando serves as the Executive Director of Safeguarding American Values for Everyone (SAVE). In this role he works to advance SAVE's mission to promote, protect and defend equality for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities in South Florida. He is a tireless advocate working to turn the tide on discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals and reduce prejudice toward the LGBTQ+ community; and

WHEREAS, He has earned multiple recognitions and awards for his work in our community. In 2021 Orlando's achievements earned him the Georgetown University William Gaston Alumni Award, an award given to outstanding alumni of the university who exemplify service. He was recently recognized by the Florida Panthers as a South Florida community member making a difference through their "Celebration of Hispanic Excellence" series as a result of his public service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 22-042 of the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Mr. Orlando Gonzales, in recognition of being outstanding leader in the community.

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

Presented this nineteenth day of October, A. D. 2022

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary