

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 23-005 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING FORMER MIAMI-DADE SCHOOLS POLICE CHIEF EDWIN LOPEZ

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL, & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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

Chief Edwin Lopez was an employee of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) for over 23 years. He began his employment with the District as a Physical Education teacher before commencing his career with the Miami-Dade Schools Police Department (MDSPD) as a School Resource Officer (SRO). While an SRO, he was named officer of the year and was awarded twice the Life Saving Award. He successfully worked his way up the ranks as a Detective, Sergeant, Commander, Major, Deputy Chief, and in 2018, was appointed Chief of Police.

Chief Lopez's skills and operational knowledge has provided him the opportunity to experience numerous assignments throughout his law enforcement career. Some of these include serving as a Detective detached to the Miami-Dade County State Attorney's Office Gang Strike Force, SWAT Team member, Internal Affairs Unit Commander, Field Operations Commander, Community Outreach Commander, and Police Spokesman.

Under the leadership of Chief Lopez, MDSPD grew to 495 sworn personnel, making it the largest school-based police department in the United States. Chief Lopez has also been an adjunct professor at Miami Dade College in the Criminal Justice program since 2008.

Chief Lopez holds a bachelor's degree from Florida International University (FIU) in Education where he was an academic All-American and later obtained his master's degree, also from FIU, in Public Administration. He holds graduate certificates in both Human Resources and Management.

Chief Lopez was the first Hispanic Chief of Police in the history of the Miami-Dade Schools Police and served as Chief for five years. In January 2023, Chief Lopez was named as the Chief of Police for the City of Doral in Miami-Dade County.

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, is proud to recognize and honor former Miami-Dade Schools Police Chief Edwin Lopez.

ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR

MS. MARIA TERESA ROJAS: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 23-005 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing former Miami-Dade Schools Police Chief Edwin Lopez.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-005 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING FORMER MIAMI-DADE SCHOOLS POLICE
CHIEF EDWIN LOPEZ**

WHEREAS, Chief Edwin Lopez was employed by Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) for over 23 years;

WHEREAS, he began his employment with the District as a Physical Education teacher before commencing his career with the Miami-Dade Schools Police Department (MDSPD) as a School Resource Officer (SRO);

WHEREAS, Chief Lopez's skills and operational knowledge has provided him the opportunity to experience numerous assignments throughout his law enforcement career including serving as a Detective detached to the Miami-Dade County State Attorney's Office Gang Strike Force, SWAT Team member, Internal Affairs Unit Commander, Field Operations Commander, Community Outreach Commander, and Police Spokesman;

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Chief Lopez, MDSPD grew to 495 sworn personnel, making it the largest school-based police department in the United States;

WHEREAS, Chief Lopez holds a bachelor's degree from Florida International University (FIU) in Education and a master's degree, also from FIU, in Public Administration. He also holds graduate certificates in both Human Resources and Management; and

WHEREAS, Chief Lopez was the first Hispanic Chief of Police in the history of the Miami-Dade Schools Police and served as Chief for five years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution NO. 23-005 of the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing former Miami-Dade Schools Police Chief Edwin Lopez.

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

Presented this fifteenth day of February, A. D. 2023

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary