

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 23-021 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF MR. MICHAEL PUTNEY, FORMER WPLG CHANNEL 10, SENIOR POLITICAL REPORTER AND HOST OF “THIS WEEK IN SOUTH FLORIDA” FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATION, COMMITMENT, AND SERVICE TO THE SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL, & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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

Mr. Michael Putney was born in New York City, and was raised in St. Louis, Missouri. At the age of 14, he and his family moved to Berkeley, California, where he attended Berkeley High School and upon graduating, he attended Deep Springs College in California for two years. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English literature and a Master’s degree from the University of Missouri.

Mr. Putney began his career in broadcast journalism in 1966 while a graduate student, first as a radio reporter and then as a news director at KCGM in Columbia, Missouri. He transferred across town to KFRU radio and was quickly promoted from assistant news director to news director. Between newscasts, he worked for *The Columbia Daily News* as city editor. In 1970, he moved to Washington, D.C. to work for *The National Observer* as a general arts writer, and then ultimately worked his way up to becoming general assignment reporter and national feature writer.

His television career in Miami, Florida, began in 1981 at WTVJ, which at the time was broadcasting on Channel 4 as Miami’s CBS network affiliate. At Channel 4, he worked as a reporter emphasizing on government and politics, eventually becoming weekend co-anchor in 1986. In 1989, he moved to WPLG Channel 10, an ABC network affiliate in Miami, to become senior political reporter and host of “This Week in South Florida with Michael Putney.” He also continued writing semi-regular columns for *The Miami Herald* throughout his career. By the late 1980’s and early 1990’s, Mr. Putney had achieved “most valuable reporter” status in the South Florida broadcast community. His superior reporting skills have won him two Emmys and the State Supreme Court also appointed him to the Florida’s Judicial Management Council.

Mr. Putney retired from WPLG Channel 10 on December 18, 2022, after hosting “This Week in South Florida” practically every Sunday for the past 33 years since the show’s premiere broadcast.

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, honors Mr. Michael Putney's extensive career as a journalist for his fair, transparent, and comprehensive reporting of events in South Florida.

ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR

MS. MARIA TERESA ROJAS: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 23-021 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the retirement of Mr. Michael Putney, former WPLG Channel 10 Senior Political Reporter and host of "This Week in South Florida" for his many years of dedication, commitment, and service to the South Florida community.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-021 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF MR. MICHAEL PUTNEY, FORMER WPLG CHANNEL 10, SENIOR POLITICAL REPORTER AND HOST OF “THIS WEEK IN SOUTH FLORIDA” FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATION, COMMITMENT, AND SERVICE TO THE SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, Mr. Michael Putney was born in New York City, and was raised in St. Louis, Missouri. At the age of 14, he and his family moved to Berkeley, California, where he attended Berkeley High School and upon graduating, he went to Deep Springs College in California for two years. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English literature and a Master’s degree from the University of Missouri;

WHEREAS, Mr. Putney began his career in broadcast journalism in 1966 while a graduate student, first as a radio reporter and then as a news director at KCGM in Columbia, Missouri;

WHEREAS, in 1970, he moved to Washington, D.C. to work for The National Observer as a general arts writer, and then eventually worked his way up to becoming general assignment reporter and national feature writer;

WHEREAS, his television career in Miami, Florida, began in 1981 at WTVJ, which at the time was broadcasting on Channel 4 as Miami’s CBS network affiliate. At Channel 4, he worked as a reporter emphasizing on government and politics, eventually becoming weekend co-anchor in 1986. In 1989, he moved to WPLG Channel 10, an ABC network affiliate in Miami, to become senior political reporter and host of “This Week in South Florida with Michael Putney;”

WHEREAS, by the late 1980’s and early 1990’s, Mr. Putney had achieved “most valuable reporter” status in the South Florida broadcast community. His superior reporting skills have won him two Emmys and the State Supreme Court also appointed him to the Florida’s Judicial Management Council; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Putney retired from WPLG Channel 10 on December 18, 2022, after hosting “This Week in South Florida” practically every Sunday for the past 33 years since the show’s premiere broadcast.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 23-021 of the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the retirement of Mr. Michael Putney, former WPLG Channel 10 senior political reporter and host of “This Week in South Florida” for his many years of dedication, commitment, and service to the South Florida community.

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

Presented this nineteenth day of April, A. D. 2023

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary