

Ms. Lucia Baez-Geller, School Board Member

Co-Sponsors: Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Chair
Ms. Mary Blanco
Ms. Monica Colucci
Dr. Steve Gallon, III
Ms. Luisa Santos

REVISED AT DAIS BY BOARD ACTION

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 23-043 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING BEVERLY HELLER FOR HER YEARS OF SERVICE TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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

Mrs. Beverly Heller graduated with a BBA from the City College of New York, where she met her husband, David. She then went on to obtain a master's degree in Education from Hunter College of New York City. In the 1970's, Mr. and Mrs. Heller moved to Miami Beach and had three daughters, all products of Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Aimee, Mande, and Cheree attended Temple Beth Shalom's Pre-K Program, Biscayne Elementary, North Beach Elementary, Nautilus Middle School, and Miami Beach Senior High.

During this time and afterwards, Mrs. Heller initiated and oversaw the Telecare Program for the Miami Beach Community Center, which helped many elderly residents to live independently. She also taught Pre-K at Temple Beth Shalom, as well as various grades at North Beach Elementary School and Fienberg-Fisher K-8 and the Adult Education Center. She served as union steward and project manager.

Mrs. Heller was awarded the Miami Beach Elaine Weisburd Teacher of the Year Award and the North Bay Village Optimist's Club Teacher of the Year Award. She was then hired to work for the Office of Magnets and School Choice, where she created the grade-level annual calendar, and instructed other early education teachers.

Shortly after, Mrs. Heller was elected as Vice-President for the United Teachers of Dade (UTD), representing 36,000 union members, while also working and attending NOVA University for a Doctoral Degree in Educational Leadership.

Now, Mrs. Heller has five grandchildren, and works part-time in the family business, International College Counselors. She remains active in the community and serves on various committees, advocating for students, teachers, and families. She has served in a leadership capacity for the Miami Beach Commission for Women, UTD Jewish Education Association, Jewish Family Services, M-DCPS Gifted Advisory Board, M-DCPS Magnet Advisory Board, M-DCC PTA/PTSA, Dade-County District Citizen's Advisory Board, Miami Beach Committee for Quality Education, and so many other associations with the mission to advance public education.

Today, the School Board of Miami-Dade County recognizes the decades of service that Mrs. Beverly Heller has devoted towards advocating for students across this district. The long-lasting contributions that she has made have affected thousands of students, teachers, and families, especially in the Miami Beach community.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. LUCIA BAEZ-GELLER:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 23-043 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Mrs. Beverly Heller for her years of service to Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 23-043
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING BEVERLY HELLER FOR HER YEARS OF SERVICE TO MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, Mrs. Beverly Heller graduated with a BBA from the City College of New York, where she met her husband, David. She then went on to obtain a master's degree in Education from Hunter College of New York City. In the 1970's, Mr. and Mrs. Heller moved to Miami Beach and had three daughters, all products of Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Aimee, Mandee, and Cheree attended Temple Beth Sholom's Pre-K Program, Biscayne Elementary, North Beach Elementary, Nautilus Middle School, and Miami Beach Senior High; and

WHEREAS, during this time and afterwards, Mrs. Heller initiated and oversaw the Telecare Program for the Miami Beach Community Center, which helped many elderly residents to live independently. She also taught Pre-K at Temple Beth Sholom, as well as various grades at North Beach Elementary School and Fienberg-Fisher K-8 and the Adult Education Center. She served as union steward and project manager; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Heller was awarded the Miami Beach Elaine Weisburd Teacher of the Year Award and the North Bay Village Optimist's Club Teacher of the Year Award. She was then hired to work for the Office of Magnets and School Choice, where she created the grade-level annual calendar, and instructed other early education teachers; and

WHEREAS, shortly after, Mrs. Heller was elected as Vice-President for the United Teachers of Dade (UTD), representing 36,000 union members, while also working and attending NOVA University for a Doctoral Degree in Educational Leadership; and

WHEREAS, now, Mrs. Heller has five grandchildren, and works part-time in the family business, International College Counselors. She remains active in the community and serves on various committees, advocating for students, teachers, and families. She has served in a leadership capacity for the Miami Beach Commission for Women, UTD Jewish Education Association, Jewish Family Services, M-DCPS Gifted Advisory Board, M-DCPS Magnet Advisory Board, M-DCC PTA/PTSA, Dade-County District Citizen's Advisory Board, Miami Beach Committee for Quality Education, and so many other associations with the mission to advance public education; and

WHEREAS, today, the School Board of Miami-Dade County recognizes the decades of service that Mrs. Beverly Heller has devoted towards advocating for students across this district. The long-lasting contributions that she has made have affected thousands of students, teachers, and families, especially in the Miami Beach community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 23-043 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Mrs. Beverly Heller for her years of service to Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

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

Presented this sixteenth day of August, A.D. 2023

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary