

Ms. Luisa Santos, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 23-052 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING GREG ZAWYER

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL, & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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

Gregory Zawyer has been a transformational leader in our District 9 community. As a devoted school principal, mentor, and district liaison, he has not only enriched the lives of countless students but has also played a significant role in strengthening the educational landscape of our district. Today, we stand in admiration and gratitude to recognize and honor the incredible work he has done for Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

With over forty years of dedicated service to Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Mr. Zawyer's career spanned from being inside the classroom to pioneering our district's magnet school program. He first started his career in M-DCPS at Cutler Ridge Middle School as an art and graphics teacher. He remained steadfast in the classroom and transitioned into a new role at Palmetto Senior High School, where he coached the tennis team, leading his students to one state championship. Driven by his ambition to become a principal, he attended night school to work towards his degree, earning him the role of night school assistant principal at Homestead Junior High School, the adult learners program. He then transitioned to a position as an assistant principal at Homestead Senior High School. After over a decade of exceptional service as an assistant principal at Homestead Senior High, he was appointed principal at Campbell Middle School for one year. Then he was promoted to principal at his beloved Homestead Senior High School. Ultimately, he was given the opportunity to be the founding principal at Coral Reef Senior High School, Miami's first mega magnet high school, which went on to receive widespread recognition and accolades, ranking in the top 25 schools during its first graduating class in the year 2000.

After he retired from Coral Reef, he worked part time hourly at the M-DCPS District Schools of Choice, assisting 13 inner city schools. Mr. Zawyer also had an integral role in the founding of Robert Morgan High School, where he left his mark by making them the first high school in South Florida to offer Mandarin classes at the time. In every school he led, Mr. Zawyer prioritized the comfort and well-being of his students, ensuring all their needs were met. Mr. Zawyer's dedication to the educational field extended beyond individual schools, as he took on a crucial role at the Region 6 advocacy office where he spent six years working with all parents and students in Region 6 in a part time hourly position, along with other staff members. His collaborative efforts and mentorship made a significant difference in enhancing the educational landscape for numerous students and educators. Not only was he a changemaker inside of schools, but he became involved in his local community through contributions to Palmetto Bay by serving on the esteemed Palmetto Bay Education Advisory Committee.

During his tenure in Miami-Dade County, Mr. Zawyer was recognized with numerous awards. Notably, he was honored with prestigious titles such as State of Florida Art Teacher of the Year while at Robert Morgan and Florida High School Tennis Coach of the Year. In recognition of his exemplary leadership and invaluable contributions to our district of Miami-Dade County the Village of Palmetto

Bay named an esteemed award after him: the Greg Zawyer Principal of the Year Award. As the first recipient of this esteemed accolade, he set a remarkable standard for excellence in educational leadership within the Village of Palmetto Bay and beyond. This distinguished award is now bestowed annually to a school principal who has displayed remarkable leadership, inspiring and empowering students and educators alike. Mr. Zawyer's journey in the community has been nothing short of inspiring his remarkable accomplishments have earned him well-deserved recognition and numerous accolades.

Mr. Zawyer diligently fostered a strong sense of community within the school system. As he assumed various roles throughout his career, he remained steadfast in his commitment to creating a fair and safe environment for young minds to flourish, offering them genuine opportunities to learn and succeed. His unwavering dedication was focused on providing every student with an equal opportunity to thrive and Mr. Zawyer's passion for nurturing young minds and inspiring them to greatness has been a beacon of hope for so many. We express our deepest gratitude for all he has done to make a positive difference in the lives of those he has served.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 23-052 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Gregory Zawyer.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-052 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING GREG ZAWYER.**

WHEREAS, Gregory Zawyer has been a transformational leader in our District 9 community. As a devoted school principal, mentor, and district liaison, he has not only enriched the lives of countless students but has also played a significant role in strengthening the educational landscape of our district. Today, we stand in admiration and gratitude to recognize and honor the incredible work he has done for Miami-Dade County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, With over forty years of dedicated service to Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Mr. Zawyer's career spanned from being inside the classroom to pioneering our district's magnet school program. He first started his career in M-DCPS at Cutler Ridge Middle School as an art and graphics teacher. He remained steadfast in the classroom and transitioned into a new role at Palmetto Senior High School, where he coached the tennis team, leading his students to one state championship. Driven by his ambition to become a principal, he attended night school to work towards his degree, earning him the role of night school assistant principal at Homestead Junior High School, the adult learners program. He then transitioned to a position as an assistant principal at Homestead Senior High School. After over a decade of exceptional service as an assistant principal at Homestead Senior High, he was appointed principal at Campbell Middle School for one year. Then he was promoted to principal at his beloved Homestead Senior High School. Ultimately, he was given the opportunity to be the founding principal at Coral Reef Senior High School, Miami's first mega magnet high school, which went on to receive widespread recognition and accolades, ranking in the top 25 schools during its first graduating class in the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, After he retired from Coral Reef, he worked part time hourly at the M-DCPS District Schools of Choice, assisting 13 inner city schools. Mr. Zawyer also had an integral role in the founding of Robert Morgan High School, where he left his mark by making them the first high school in South Florida to offer Mandarin classes at the time. In every school he led, Mr. Zawyer prioritized the comfort and well-being of his students, ensuring all their needs were met. Mr. Zawyer's dedication to the educational field extended beyond individual schools, as he took on a crucial role at the Region 6 advocacy office where he spent six years working with all parents and students in Region 6 in a part time hourly position, along with other staff members. His collaborative efforts and mentorship made a significant difference in enhancing the educational landscape for numerous students and educators. Not only was he a changemaker inside of schools, but he became involved in his local community through contributions to Palmetto Bay by serving on the esteemed Palmetto Bay Education Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure in Miami-Dade County, Mr. Zawyer was recognized with numerous awards. Notably, he was honored with prestigious titles such as State of Florida Art Teacher of the Year while at Robert Morgan and Florida High School Tennis Coach of the Year. In recognition of his exemplary leadership and invaluable contributions to our district of Miami-Dade County the Village of Palmetto Bay named an esteemed award after him: the Greg Zawyer Principal of the Year Award. As the first recipient of this esteemed accolade, he set a remarkable standard for excellence in educational leadership within the Village of Palmetto Bay and beyond. This distinguished award is now bestowed annually to a school principal who has displayed remarkable leadership, inspiring and empowering students and educators alike. Mr. Zawyer's journey in the community has been nothing short of inspiring his remarkable accomplishments have earned him well-deserved recognition and numerous accolades; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zawyer diligently fostered a strong sense of community within the school system. As he assumed various roles throughout his career, he remained steadfast in his commitment to creating a fair and safe environment for young minds to flourish, offering them genuine opportunities to learn and succeed. His unwavering dedication was focused on providing every student with an equal opportunity to thrive and Mr. Zawyer's passion for nurturing young minds and inspiring them to greatness has been a beacon of hope for so many. We express our deepest gratitude for all he has done to make a positive difference in the lives of those he has served.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 23-052 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, Greg Zawyer.

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

Presented this eleventh day of October, A. D. 2023

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary

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