

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

**SUBJECT:               REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 24-053 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING METRIS BATTS-COLEY: A CHAMPION OF SOCIAL SERVICES, COMMUNITY ADVOCACY, AND CULTURAL EMPOWERMENT**

**COMMITTEE:           ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION, & TECHNOLOGY**

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

Metris Batts-Coley has dedicated over 25 years to the field of social services, holding notable positions including Minority AIDS Coordinator for Florida Health Palm Beach County, Director of Outreach and Prevention for The Village South, Director of Prevention for Empower U Inc., Professional Placement Network Coordinator for the Florida Department of Labor, and Training Coordinator with the American Red Cross.

Metris Batts-Coley demonstrated exceptional leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic by converting the Dunns Josephine Hotel in the Historic Overtown Neighborhood into a quarantine isolation shelter for the homeless, providing essential services to over 700 displaced residents of Miami-Dade County and implementing comprehensive social services for the guests.

Metris Batts-Coley, born and raised in Trenton, New Jersey, and shaped by her experiences in both urban and rural environments, has developed a unique and profound empathy for her community, fostering a deep concern for people of all races and ethnicities.

Metris Batts-Coley currently serves as the Principal Partner of the Affiliates, a Nonprofit Capacity Building Consultants Firm, and as the first black president of the Miami Women's Club, a prestigious nonprofit volunteer organization with a history spanning over 120 years.

Metris Batts-Coley is a dedicated member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., a cultural exchange ambassador hosting women from Kenya, and has a family commitment to a village in Ghana, serving on numerous nonprofit boards and committees to advocate for equal rights and community unity. Metris is a passionate advocate for social justice and equality, tirelessly promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion for black businesses, employees, and residents, while raising awareness on crucial issues and organizing community events.

This item has been reviewed and approved by the School Board Attorney's Office as to form and legal sufficiency.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**DR. DOROTHY BENDROSS-MINDINGALL:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 24-053 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Metris Batts-Coley: A champion of social services, community advocacy, and cultural empowerment.

**RESOLUTION NO. 24-053  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING  
METRIS BATTS-COLEY: A CHAMPION OF SOCIAL SERVICES, COMMUNITY ADVOCACY,  
AND CULTURAL EMPOWERMENT.**

**WHEREAS** Metris Batts-Coley has dedicated over 25 years to the field of social services, holding notable positions including Minority AIDS Coordinator for Florida Health Palm Beach County, Director of Outreach and Prevention for The Village South, Director of Prevention for Empower U Inc., Professional Placement Network Coordinator for the Florida Department of Labor, and Training Coordinator with the American Red Cross; and

**WHEREAS**, Metris Batts-Coley demonstrated exceptional leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic by converting the Dunns Josephine Hotel in the Historic Overtown Neighborhood into a quarantine isolation shelter for the homeless, providing essential services to over 700 displaced residents of Miami-Dade County and implementing comprehensive social services for the guests; and

**WHEREAS**, Metris Batts-Coley, born and raised in Trenton, New Jersey, and shaped by her experiences in both urban and rural environments, has developed a unique and profound empathy for her community, fostering a deep concern for people of all races and ethnicities; and

**WHEREAS**, Metris Batts-Coley currently serves as the Principal Partner of the Affiliates, a Nonprofit Capacity Building Consultants Firm, and as the first black president of the Miami Women’s Club, a prestigious nonprofit volunteer organization with a history spanning over 120 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Metris Batts-Coley is a dedicated member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., a cultural exchange ambassador hosting women from Kenya, and has a family commitment to a village in Ghana, serving on numerous nonprofit boards and committees to advocate for equal rights and community unity. Metris is a passionate advocate for social justice and equality, tirelessly promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion for black businesses, employees, and residents, while raising awareness on crucial issues and organizing community events; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 24-053 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida recognizing Mrs. Metris Batts-Coley.

A copy of this proclamation is placed in the permanent record of this Board.

**Presented this twenty-fourth day of July, A.D. 2024**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary