

Ms. Luisa Santos, Board Member

Co-Sponsors: Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Chair
Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall
Ms. Mary Blanco
Mr. Daniel Espino
Dr. Steve Gallon, III

REVISOR'S ACTION
BY
AT DAIS
REVISOR

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 25-009 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING MDCPS' 2026 TEACHER OF THE YEAR MS. VIVIAN VENTURA

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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

On January 28, 2025, Ms. Vivian Ventura was honored as Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) 2026 Francisco R. Walker Teacher of the Year. A dedicated orchestra teacher at Southwood Middle School, Ms. Ventura is a 20-year veteran with a passion for music and music education. She firmly believes in the transformative power of music and its ability to shape children's lives.

Ms. Ventura started her teaching career with M-DCPS in 2004 at Arvida Middle School, where she taught until 2021, before joining Southwood Middle School. Over the years, Ms. Ventura has been profoundly influenced by the success and dedication of her students. In her classroom, every student is encouraged to approach learning with resilience and creativity, nurturing both their musical skills and personal growth. Under her guidance, students not only develop strong musical abilities but also gain invaluable life lessons. Her teaching philosophy is grounded in the belief that music, academics, and character development are inseparable, together laying the foundation for lifelong success.

As an educational leader, Ms. Ventura is committed to strengthening music education across Miami-Dade County and Florida. She has served as a guest conductor at statewide events and mentored young teachers, providing them with fresh strategies and techniques to enrich their classrooms. Additionally, Ms. Ventura organizes an annual concert to raise funds for local music programs, using this platform to highlight the importance of music education and to encourage parents to support their children's musical aspirations.

Ms. Ventura's influence extends beyond the classroom, shaping her school's culture in meaningful ways. She has forged partnerships with colleagues, promoting collaboration and creativity, and fostering a shared sense of unity and purpose. Her leadership is creating a legacy of collective achievement through the power of music.

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, proudly recognizes Ms. Vivian Ventura as Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) 2026 Francisco R. Walker Teacher of the Year. Her exemplary career and remarkable accomplishments stand as a testament to the dedication and professionalism of M-DCPS educators. Ms. Ventura is a champion of her profession, an inspiration to her students, and a role model to her colleagues. Her unwavering commitment to music education has empowered her students to feel seen, valued, and capable of making their own lasting impact on their community and the world.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 25-009 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ms. Vivian Ventura as Miami-Dade County Public Schools' 2026 Francisco R. Walker Teacher of the Year.

**RESOLUTION NO. 24-010 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING MS. VIVIAN VENTURA AS MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS'
2026 FRANCISCO R. WALKER TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

WHEREAS, on January 28, 2025, Ms. Vivian Ventura was honored as Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) 2026 Francisco R. Walker Teacher of the Year. A dedicated orchestra teacher at Southwood Middle School, Ms. Ventura is a 20-year veteran with a passion for music and music education. She firmly believes in the transformative power of music and its ability to shape children's lives; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ventura started her teaching career with M-DCPS in 2004 at Arvida Middle School, where she taught until 2021, before joining Southwood Middle School. Over the years, Ms. Ventura has been profoundly influenced by the success and dedication of her students. In her classroom, every student is encouraged to approach learning with resilience and creativity, nurturing both their musical skills and personal growth. Under her guidance, students not only develop strong musical abilities but also gain invaluable life lessons. Her teaching philosophy is grounded in the belief that music, academics, and character development are inseparable, together laying the foundation for lifelong success; and

WHEREAS, as an educational leader, Ms. Ventura is committed to strengthening music education across Miami-Dade County and Florida. She has served as a guest conductor at statewide events and mentored young teachers, providing them with fresh strategies and techniques to enrich their classrooms. Additionally, Ms. Ventura organizes an annual concert to raise funds for local music programs, using this platform to highlight the importance of music education and to encourage parents to support their children's musical aspirations; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ventura's influence extends beyond the classroom, shaping her school's culture in meaningful ways. She has forged partnerships with colleagues, promoting collaboration and creativity, and fostering a shared sense of unity and purpose. Her leadership is creating a legacy of collective achievement through the power of music; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, proudly recognizes Ms. Vivian Ventura as Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) 2026 Francisco R. Walker Teacher of the Year. Her exemplary career and remarkable accomplishments stand as a testament to the dedication and professionalism of M-DCPS educators. Ms. Ventura is a champion of her profession, an inspiration to her students, and a role model to her colleagues. Her unwavering commitment to music education has empowered her students to feel seen, valued, and capable of making their own lasting impact on their community and the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 25-009 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida recognizing Ms. Vivian Ventura as Miami-Dade County Public Schools' 2026 Francisco R. Walker Teacher of the Year.

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

Presented this twelfth day of February, A.D. 2025

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary