

Mr. Danny Espino, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 25-019 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, CELEBRATING THE LIFELONG CONTRIBUTIONS OF COMMISSIONER MANOLO REYES TO EDUCATION & COMMUNITY

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC

PLAN: INFORMED, ENGAGED, & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

Commissioner Manolo Reyes dedicated his life to advancing education, civic responsibility, and community empowerment across Miami-Dade County. A respected educator and public servant, he built a legacy rooted in service, equity, and opportunity for all. Through decades of tireless work in classrooms, city government, and community initiatives, Commissioner Reyes uplifted students and families while championing access to quality education and resources.

Commissioner Reyes was a student at Miami Senior High School and went on to attend the University of Florida, where he graduated with a bachelor's and master's in economics. After years of service at the City of Miami budget office and later private practice as an economist, consultant, businessman, and adjunct professor at Miami Dade College, he served as principal budget analyst for Miami-Dade County Public Schools. He played a key role in ensuring schools had the financial resources to support teaching and learning. His commitment to transparency, academic access, and opportunity was matched by his devotion to addressing students' broader needs. It was that commitment that later drove Commissioner Reyes to the classroom at Westland Hialeah Senior High School, where he taught math and economics. He also led the school's FIU dual enrollment program in economics, providing students with college-level academic opportunities and preparing them for future success.

As an elected official, Commissioner Reyes organized annual school backpack distribution events, providing thousands of students with essential supplies to begin the school year prepared and confident. In 2024 alone, he facilitated the distribution of more than 8,000 backpacks across schools, camps, and community centers, including the Boys and Girls Club of Miami-Dade. He also hosted community support events, such as a free food distribution at Auburndale Elementary School, ensuring that no child went without basic needs.

Deeply connected to his roots, Commissioner Reyes would often support his alma mater, Miami High, and visit the various schools throughout the City and his District, specifically Henry Flagler Elementary School. His visits and support for the school symbolized his belief in the power of education to transform lives and serve as a foundation for future leadership.

Commissioner Reyes was also an active member and supporter of La Liga Contra El Cancer, the United Way, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and Los Tuneros, an activist group for Cubans born in Victoria de las Tunas, Cuba and living in exile. Through his years of community service, he shaped community development, educational equity, and access to healthcare for our community's most vulnerable citizens and continued his fight for democracy in his native Cuba.

Commissioner Reyes lived with purpose and led with compassion, inspiring generations to serve with integrity and believe in the transformative power of opportunity. His efforts reflect our District's values—equity, service, and community investment. His legacy is one of hope, access, and tireless advocacy for all learners.

**REPLACEMENT
B-3**

This resolution honors the life and legacy of Commissioner Manolo Reyes, whose unwavering dedication to education, public service, and community upliftment leaves a lasting imprint on the heart of Miami-Dade County. With gratitude and admiration, we recognize his profound impact and celebrate a legacy that will continue to shape lives for years to come.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MR. DANNY ESPINO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 25-019 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognize and celebrate Commissioner Manolo Reyes for his lifelong service to education, his commitment to community uplift, and his enduring impact on schools and students across Miami-Dade County.

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-019 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, CELEBRATING
THE LIFELONG CONTRIBUTIONS OF COMMISSIONER
MANOLO REYES TO EDUCATION & COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, Commissioner Manolo Reyes dedicated his life to advancing education, civic responsibility, and community empowerment across Miami-Dade County. A respected educator and public servant, he built a legacy rooted in service, equity, and opportunity for all. Through decades of tireless work in classrooms, city government, and community initiatives, Commissioner Reyes uplifted students and families while championing access to quality education and resources; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the University of Florida, where he earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees in economics, Commissioner Reyes began his professional career in education as an adjunct professor at Miami Dade College, enriching the lives of countless students with his passion for learning and mentorship. He later served as a math and economics teacher at Westland Hialeah Senior High School, where he also led the school's FIU dual enrollment program in economics, providing students with college-level academic opportunities and preparing them for future success; and

WHEREAS, His work extended beyond the classroom. As a principal budget analyst for Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Commissioner Reyes played a key role in ensuring schools had the financial resources needed to support teaching and learning. His commitment to academic access and opportunity was matched by his devotion to addressing students' broader needs; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Reyes organized annual school backpack distribution events, where he provided thousands of students with essential supplies to begin the school year prepared and confident. In 2024 alone, he facilitated the distribution of more than 8,000 backpacks across schools, camps, and community centers, including the Boys and Girls Club of Miami-Dade. He also hosted community support events, such as a free food distribution at Auburndale Elementary School, ensuring that no child went without basic needs; and

WHEREAS, a proud alum of Miami Senior High School, Commissioner Reyes remained deeply connected to his roots, frequently supporting his alma mater and visiting the various schools throughout the city and his district, most notably Henry Flagler Elementary School. His continued involvement and support reflected his belief in the power of education to transform lives and serve as a foundation for future leadership; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Reyes was also an active member and supporter of La Liga Contra El Cancer, the United Way, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and Los Tuneros, where he continued to shape community development, educational equity and access to healthcare for our community's most vulnerable citizens and continued his fight for democracy in his native Cuba. Commissioner Reyes lived with purpose and led with compassion, inspiring generations to serve with integrity and believe in the transformative power of opportunity. His efforts reflect the values our District upholds—equity, service, and community investment. His legacy is one of hope, access, and tireless advocacy for all learners; and

WHEREAS, this resolution honors the life and legacy of Commissioner Manolo Reyes, whose unwavering dedication to education, public service, and community upliftment leaves a lasting imprint on the heart of Miami-Dade County. With gratitude and admiration, we recognize his profound impact and celebrate a legacy that will continue to shape lives for years to come;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 25-019 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, celebrating the lifelong contributions of Commissioner Manolo Reyes to education & community

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

Presented this fourteenth day of May, A.D. 2025

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST

Secretary