

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 25-020 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING CONNIE KINNARD**

**COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL, & COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

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

Connie W. Kinnard is Senior Vice President of Multicultural Tourism & Development for the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau (GMCVB). Ms. Kinnard leads the department's efforts in promoting multicultural neighborhoods, attractions, and events in Miami. The Multicultural & Tourism department not only leads efforts internally, but under Connie's leadership, the department spearheads business development programs for small businesses around tourism capacity building along with a cultural program called Art of Black Miami. Art of Black Miami is a marketing platform that highlights all forms of art, artists and galleries in Miami that touches the African Diaspora. Most recently, her portfolio has expanded to include oversight of the GMCVB's Black Hospitality Initiative which is a college scholarship and workforce development program for the tourism industry. In addition, she has broadened her scope of work locally and nationally on advancing DEI opportunities.

Connie has worked in the hospitality industry for over 25 years and holds a master's degree in management from the University of Phoenix and a Bachelor of Business Administration from Tennessee State University. She is active with numerous civic/service organizations and has served on various professional boards or participated in volunteer organizations throughout her career to include Destinations International (Foundation Board), Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce, Christian Community Services Inc., National Museum of African American Music, Nashville City Club, Women of Tomorrow, National Coalition of Black Meeting Professionals and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Prior to joining the GMCVB in 2015, Ms. Kinnard worked for the Nashville Convention & Visitors Corporation (NCVC) for 19 years and held the position of SVP of Multicultural Sales & Development. She also served administratively as the National Museum of African American Music's, Chief Administrator respectively from 2003-2008 in addition to but in tandem with her responsibilities at the NCVC.

This resolution recognizes and celebrates the extraordinary achievements and enduring impact of Connie W. Kinnard. Through her visionary leadership, Ms. Kinnard has championed the vibrant cultural heritage of Miami's diverse communities, empowered small businesses, and cultivated programs that uplift the arts and the next generation of tourism professionals. Her commitment to equity, education, and economic development has created lasting opportunities and inspired countless individuals. We honor her decades of service, her unwavering dedication to inclusion, and the powerful legacy she continues to build.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**DR. DOROTHY BENDROSS-MINDINGALL:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 25-020 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Connie Kinnard.

**REPLACEMENT  
B-4**

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-020 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING CONNIE KINNARD**

**WHEREAS**, Connie W. Kinnard is Senior Vice President of Multicultural Tourism & Development for the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau (GMCVB). Ms. Kinnard leads the department's efforts in promoting multicultural neighborhoods, attractions, and events in Miami; and

**WHEREAS**, the Multicultural & Tourism department not only leads internal efforts, but under Connie's leadership, it also spearheads business development programs for small businesses around tourism capacity building, along with a cultural program called Art of Black Miami. Art of Black Miami is a marketing platform that highlights all forms of art, artists and galleries in Miami that touches the African Diaspora. Most recently, her portfolio has expanded to include oversight of the GMCVB's Black Hospitality Initiative, a college scholarship and workforce development program for the tourism industry. In addition, she has broadened her scope of work locally and nationally on advancing DEI opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, Connie has worked in the hospitality industry for over 25 years and holds a Master's degree in Management from the University of Phoenix and a Bachelor of Business Administration from Tennessee State University. She is active with numerous civic and service organizations and has served on various professional boards or participated in volunteer organizations throughout her career, including Destinations International (Foundation Board), Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce, Christian Community Services Inc., National Museum of African American Music, Nashville City Club, Women of Tomorrow, National Coalition of Black Meeting Professionals and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to joining the GMCVB in 2015, Ms. Kinnard worked for the Nashville Convention & Visitors Corporation (NCVC) for 19 years, where she held the position of Senior Vice President of Multicultural Sales & Development. From 2003 to 2008, she also served as Chief Administrator for the National Museum of African American Music, a role she fulfilled concurrently with her responsibilities at the NCVC; and

**WHEREAS**, this resolution recognizes and celebrates the extraordinary achievements and enduring impact of Connie W. Kinnard. Through her visionary leadership, Ms. Kinnard has championed the vibrant cultural heritage of Miami's diverse communities, empowered small businesses, and cultivated programs that uplift the arts and the next generation of tourism professionals. Her commitment to equity, education, and economic development has created lasting opportunities and inspired countless individuals. We honor her decades of service, her unwavering dedication to inclusion, and the powerful legacy she continues to build;

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

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 25-020 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Connie Kinnard.

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

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

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary