

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 26-007 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING 100 BLACK MEN OF SOUTH FLORIDA INC.

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL, & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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

For more than thirty-five years, 100 Black Men of South Florida, Inc. has stood as a pillar of leadership, service, and hope for communities across the region. Founded on June 24, 1989, by a distinguished group of visionary leaders—Steven Bullock; William E. Diggs; John E. Dixon, Jr.; Albert E. Dotson, Jr.; Antonio Junior; Dewey W. Knight, III; Joseph L. Moore; Baron D. Thrower; Mark A. Valentine; and Lynn C. Washington—the organization emerged from a shared conviction that collective influence could change the course of generations. Guided by a deep sense of responsibility, these founders sought to confront the barriers of illiteracy, disenfranchisement, and limited opportunity by uniting their experience in business, government, and industry to uplift African American and minority communities throughout South Florida.

From its earliest days, the organization has been a brotherhood grounded in respect for family, spirituality, justice, and integrity. Through its enduring “Four for the Future” pillars—Mentoring, Education, Health and Wellness, and Economic Empowerment (often referred to as Economic Development)—the chapter has built a comprehensive framework for developing leaders and strengthening communities. Programs such as the Dr. Harold Guinyard Leadership Academy, the Positive Youth Development partnership with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, and the Collegiate 100 have created a continuous pathway from childhood to adulthood, ensuring that young people are not only prepared for success but inspired to lead with purpose and character.

Equally central to its legacy is a tradition of service rooted in compassion and generosity. Through signature Community Giveback events—including the annual Thanksgiving Food and Grocery Giveaway and the Christmas Shopping Spree in partnership with Publix and Walmart—the organization has transformed moments of need into opportunities for dignity and joy for thousands of families. Its initiatives also include the High School Summer Nursing and Health Sciences Academy, the Middle School Summer Law Program, and the Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Career Fair. Its commitment to innovation and dialogue continues today, exemplified by the “Human Library” events hosted at Barry University, which foster understanding across generations and create spaces for courageous conversations that strengthen and unite the community.

Today, under the leadership of President Pierre E. Rutledge and a dedicated Board of Directors, the impact of 100 Black Men of South Florida, Inc. is most powerfully reflected in the leaders it has produced. The young men once guided by its mentors now serve as its members, officers, and community champions, completing a cycle of empowerment that continues to renew itself.

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, honors the distinguished legacy of 100 Black Men of South Florida, Inc., and recognizes this exceptional organization for its enduring impact on students and young people across our community.

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. 26-007 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing 100 Black Men of South Florida, Inc.

**RESOLUTION NO. 26-007
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING 100 BLACK MEN OF SOUTH FLORIDA INC.**

WHEREAS, for more than thirty-five years, 100 Black Men of South Florida, Inc. has stood as a pillar of leadership, service, and hope for communities across the region. Founded on June 24, 1989, by a distinguished group of visionary leaders—Steven Bullock; William E. Diggs; John E. Dixon, Jr.; Albert E. Dotson, Jr.; Antonio Junior; Dewey W. Knight, III; Joseph L. Moore; Baron D. Thrower; Mark A. Valentine; and Lynn C. Washington—the organization emerged from a shared conviction that collective influence could change the course of generations. Guided by a deep sense of responsibility, these founders sought to confront the barriers of illiteracy, disenfranchisement, and limited opportunity by uniting their experience in business, government, and industry to uplift African American and minority communities throughout South Florida; and

WHEREAS, from its earliest days, the organization has been a brotherhood grounded in respect for family, spirituality, justice, and integrity. Through its enduring “Four for the Future” pillars—Mentoring, Education, Health and Wellness, and Economic Empowerment (often referred to as Economic Development)—the chapter has built a comprehensive framework for developing leaders and strengthening communities. Programs such as the Dr. Harold Guinyard Leadership Academy, the Positive Youth Development partnership with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, and the Collegiate 100 have created a continuous pathway from childhood to adulthood, ensuring that young people are not only prepared for success but inspired to lead with purpose and character; and

WHEREAS, equally central to its legacy is a tradition of service rooted in compassion and generosity. Through signature Community Giveback events—including the annual Thanksgiving Food and Grocery Giveaway and the Christmas Shopping Spree in partnership with Publix and Walmart—the organization has transformed moments of need into opportunities for dignity and joy for thousands of families. Its initiatives also include the High School Summer Nursing and Health Sciences Academy, the Middle School Summer Law Program, and the Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Career Fair. Its commitment to innovation and dialogue continues today, exemplified by the “Human Library” events hosted at Barry University, which foster understanding across generations and create spaces for courageous conversations that strengthen and unite the community; and

WHEREAS, today, under the leadership of President Pierre E. Rutledge and a dedicated Board of Directors, the impact of 100 Black Men of South Florida, Inc. is most powerfully reflected in the leaders it has produced. The young men once guided by its mentors now serve as its members, officers, and community champions, completing a cycle of empowerment that continues to renew itself; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, honors the distinguished legacy of 100 Black Men of South Florida, Inc., and recognizes this exceptional organization for its enduring impact on students and young people across our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution 26-006 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing 100 Black Men of South Florida, Inc.

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

Presented this eleventh day of February, A.D. 2026

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary