

Joseph Geller, School Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 26-008 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING KINDNESS MATTERS

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL, & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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

Kindness Matters is a nonprofit organization that teaches kindness as a practical life skill and supports students in developing empathy, emotional awareness, and connection to others. Founded by mother and entrepreneur Laura Reiss as a grassroots initiative, the organization now serves students, educators, and communities nationwide.

At its core, Kindness Matters works directly with students to help them understand their emotions, build resilience, and practice compassion in everyday life. The organization is grounded in the belief that kindness is not just a value, but a skill that can be learned and strengthened over time. When students are given tools to regulate emotions, support one another, and contribute meaningfully to their communities, they build confidence, leadership, and a stronger sense of belonging.

In response to increasing rates of anxiety, sadness, and loneliness among young people, Kindness Matters provides age-appropriate programming from Pre-K through high school that supports social and emotional development. Clubs, assemblies, and service projects create structured spaces where students can connect, reflect, and learn.

Kindness Matters combines accessible science with practical strategies that help students understand how stress, relationships, and learning affect the brain. Through interactive activities, students practice skills for managing emotions, resolving conflict, and showing kindness in real-world situations. Educator workshops extend this work by helping adults model these skills and create classroom environments where students feel safe, supported, and ready to learn.

To date, more than 26,000 participants have engaged with Kindness Matters programs, contributing over 768,000 volunteer hours in support of more than 460 charitable causes.

The School Board of Miami-Dade County proudly recognizes and honors Kindness Matters for its commitment to teaching kindness as a life skill and for its meaningful contributions to the success of students and communities.

ACTION PROPOSED BY MR. JOSEPH GELLER:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 26-008 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Kindness Matters for its commitment to teaching kindness as a life skill and for its meaningful contributions to the success of students and communities.

**REPLACEMENT
B-7**

**RESOLUTION NO. 26-008 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING KINDNESS MATTERS**

WHEREAS, Kindness Matters is a nonprofit organization that teaches kindness as a practical life skill and supports students in developing empathy, emotional awareness, and connection to others. Founded by mother and educator Laura Reiss as a grassroots initiative, the organization now serves students, educators, and communities nationwide; and

WHEREAS, at its core, Kindness Matters works directly with students to help them understand their emotions, build resilience, and practice compassion in everyday life. The organization is grounded in the belief that kindness is not just a value, but a skill that can be learned and strengthened over time. When students are given tools to regulate emotions, support one another, and contribute meaningfully to their communities, they build confidence, leadership, and a stronger sense of belonging; and

WHEREAS, in response to increasing rates of anxiety, sadness, and loneliness among young people, Kindness Matters provides age-appropriate programming from Pre-K through high school that supports social and emotional development. Clubs, assemblies, and service projects create structured spaces where students can connect, reflect, and learn; and

WHEREAS, Kindness Matters combines accessible science with practical strategies that help students understand how stress, relationships, and learning affect the brain. Through interactive activities, students practice skills for managing emotions, resolving conflict, and showing kindness in real-world situations. Educator workshops extend this work by helping adults model these skills and create classroom environments where students feel safe, supported, and ready to learn; and

WHEREAS, to date, more than 26,000 participants have engaged with Kindness Matters programs, contributing over 768,000 volunteer hours in support of more than 460 charitable causes; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Miami-Dade County proudly recognizes and honors Kindness Matters for its commitment to teaching kindness as a life skill and for its meaningful contributions to the success of students and communities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 26-008 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Kindness Matters for its commitment to teaching kindness as a life skill and for its meaningful contributions to the success of students and communities.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records 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