

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Chair

SUBJECT: MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2027 TEACHER OF THE YEAR – MR. ROBERTO RABELO, A CIVICS TEACHER AT SOUTH MIAMI MIDDLE SCHOOL

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS, LEADERS, & STAFF

It is with great respect and admiration for The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida to recognize and honor Mr. Roberto Rabelo, a teacher at South Miami-Middle School who has been selected as Miami-Dade County Public Schools 2027 Teacher of the Year, an educator whose impact reaches far beyond the walls of the classroom. Through unwavering dedication, creativity, and compassion, Mr. Rabelo has transformed learning into an experience that inspires curiosity, confidence, and a lifelong love of knowledge. Students feel challenged, families feel welcomed and valued, and colleagues find a trusted leader who elevates everyone around them.

Mr. Rabelo is a proud Miami-Dade native and a graduate of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, having attended South Miami Senior High School before earning his degree from Florida International University. He began his teaching career 37 years ago. His first teaching position was at Kensington Park Elementary School, and he was awarded Rookie Teacher of the Year in 1993. He has dedicated many years of service to educating students at South Miami Middle School.

What truly sets the 2027 Teacher of the Year apart is a deep belief in the potential of every learner. By combining innovative instructional practices with genuine human connection, Mr. Rabelo turns obstacles into opportunities and ensures that excellence and equity go hand in hand. Widely respected by colleagues and students alike, Mr. Rabelo is known throughout the school as a trusted social, emotional, and mental health resource, offering guidance and support to students facing personal and academic challenges. Furthermore, he has developed and maintained highly respectful and collaborative relationships with fellow teachers, school administrators, support staff, and all members of the school community. We celebrate not only his outstanding teaching, but also a powerful commitment to shaping brighter futures—one student, one classroom, and one community at a time.

Beyond the classroom, Mr. Rabelo serves as a catalyst for positive change across the entire school community. Whether mentoring new educators, leading professional learning, or partnering with families and local organizations, this outstanding educator exemplifies service, leadership, and integrity. His influence continues to ripple outward, leaving a lasting legacy of excellence, inspiration, and hope for generations to come.

This item has been reviewed and approved by the Office of the General Counsel as to form and legal sufficiency.

ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR

MS. MARIA TERESA ROJAS: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizes and honors the excellence of Miami-Dade County Public Schools 2027 Teacher of the Year, Mr. Roberto Rabelo, a civics teacher at South Miami Middle School.