

Joseph Geller, School Board Member

Co-Sponsors:	Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Chair Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall Ms. Mary Blanco Mr. Daniel Espino Ms. Luisa Santos	} REVIS ED AT DAIS BY BOARD ACTION
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**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.

**REVISED REPLACEMENT  
B-7**

**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.

**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

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SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary