Office of School Board Members
Board Meeting of October 14, 2026

October 14, 2026

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

CO-SPONSORS: **Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Chair**
Ms. Monica Colucci, Vice Chair
Ms. Mary Blanco
Mr. Daniel Espino
Mr. Joseph S. Geller

REVISED AT DAIS BY BOARD ACTION

SUBJECT: **REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO, 26-048 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING SAMUEL H. LATIMORE FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT, EDUCATION, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, AND ADVOCACY**

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

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

Professor Samuel H. Latimore has devoted more than six decades to serving children, youth, families, and communities, beginning his distinguished career in the 1960s with the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice at Miami Detention Center, Youth Hall; where he served as a Single Intake Counselor, presented cases before the courts, investigated child dependency matters, and later served as Detention Superintendent at both the Pompano Detention Center and Miami-Dade Juvenile Detention Center, providing leadership in the care, custody, rehabilitation, and placement of youth.

In 1981, Professor Latimore was selected as an Associate Professor with the Southeast Florida Institute of Criminal Justice, where he became Chairperson of the Behavioral Science Unit and later Associate Director, providing academic instruction and professional training in criminal justice, corrections, law enforcement, juvenile delinquency, mental health, drug dependence, and other critical issues affecting individuals and communities.

Professor Latimore distinguished himself as an educator and mentor by developing and delivering corrections and law enforcement training throughout the State of Florida and becoming a certified Florida Department of Law Enforcement instructor in law enforcement, firearms, chemical agents, defensive tactics, crisis intervention, and human diversity, while also serving as Major in the Community Services Division of the Opa-locka Police Department, addressing community safety, youth concerns, and human service needs.

Following his retirement, Professor Latimore continued his lifelong commitment to service as an advocate for children, youth, the elderly, and individuals experiencing mental illness, and as President of the Charles Hadley Neighborhood Association, Inc., established the Urban Neighborhood Environmental Justice Committee to address environmental safety, neighborhood cleanliness, code enforcement, traffic safety, and quality-of-life concerns, particularly around schools and senior centers.

A proud graduate of Miami Northwestern Senior High School, Class of 1964, Professor Latimore continued his education at Miami-Dade College, Florida International University, and St. Thomas University, earning degrees and pursuing studies in Social Work and Criminal Justice; and, through more than six decades of education, leadership, mentorship, advocacy, and public

service, has positively impacted generations of young people, families, educators, criminal justice professionals, seniors, and communities throughout South Florida and the State of Florida, leaving a lasting legacy of compassion, perseverance, civic responsibility, and service to others.

ACTION PROPOSED BY MEMBER BENDROSS-MINDINGALL:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution 26-048 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Samuel H. Latimore for his outstanding contributions.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-0048 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING SAMUEL H. LATIMORE FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEDICATION TO THE COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, Professor Samuel H. Latimore has devoted more than six decades to serving children, youth, families, and communities, beginning his distinguished career in the 1960s with the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice at Miami Detention Center, Youth Hall; where he served as a Single Intake Counselor, presented cases before the courts, investigated child dependency matters, and later served as Detention Superintendent at both the Pompano Detention Center and Miami-Dade Juvenile Detention Center, providing leadership in the care, custody, rehabilitation, and placement of youth; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, Professor Latimore was selected as an Associate Professor with the Southeast Florida Institute of Criminal Justice, where he became Chairperson of the Behavioral Science Unit and later Associate Director, providing academic instruction and professional training in criminal justice, corrections, law enforcement, juvenile delinquency, mental health, drug dependence, and other critical issues affecting individuals and communities; and

WHEREAS, Professor Latimore distinguished himself as an educator and mentor by developing and delivering corrections and law enforcement training throughout the State of Florida and becoming a certified Florida Department of Law Enforcement instructor in law enforcement, firearms, chemical agents, defensive tactics, crisis intervention, and human diversity, while also serving as Major in the Community Services Division of the Opa-locka Police Department, addressing community safety, youth concerns, and human service needs; and

WHEREAS, following his retirement, Professor Latimore continued his lifelong commitment to service as an advocate for children, youth, the elderly, and individuals experiencing mental illness, and as President of the Charles Hadley Neighborhood Association, Inc., established the Urban Neighborhood Environmental Justice Committee to address environmental safety, neighborhood cleanliness, code enforcement, traffic safety, and quality-of-life concerns, particularly around schools and senior centers; and

WHEREAS, a proud graduate of Miami Northwestern Senior High School, Class of 1964, Professor Latimore continued his education at Miami-Dade College, Florida International University, and St. Thomas University, earning degrees and pursuing studies in Social Work and Criminal Justice; and, through more than six decades of education, leadership, mentorship, advocacy, and public service, has positively impacted generations of young people, families, educators, criminal justice professionals, seniors, and communities throughout South Florida and the State of Florida, leaving a lasting legacy of compassion, perseverance, civic responsibility, and service to others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution 26-048 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Mr. Samuel H. Latimore for his outstanding contributions.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this fourteenth day of September, A. D. 2026

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary