Office of School Board Members
Board Meeting of November 18, 2026

October 15, 2026

Ms. Mary Blanco, Board Member

SUBJECT: **MIAMI-DADE SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF NATIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION DAY, DECEMBER 2, 2026**

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

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

National Special Education Day, celebrated across the United States, focuses on recognizing the importance of special education and the rights of individuals with disabilities. Observing National Special Education Day commemorates the anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which was signed into law on December 2, 1975. IDEA guarantees free and appropriate public education to students with disabilities. It emphasizes the importance of removing barriers to learning and ensuring that every child's potential is realized.

National Special Education Day encourages the integration of students with disabilities into regular classrooms, fostering a more inclusive and diverse learning environment. This day highlights the importance of Special Education Teachers and their work to ensure the success of all students. Parents and guardians are their child's first advocates, and this day also recognizes them for their efforts in making their child's educational needs a priority.

Furthermore, National Special Education Day is an important day because it brings attention to the rights and needs of individuals with disabilities, it celebrates special education teachers, acknowledges parents' efforts and it advocates for a more inclusive and equitable education system. National Special Education Day serves as a reminder of ensuring that every child receives the support and resources they need to succeed in school and in life.

This item has been reviewed and approved by the General Counsel's office as to form and legal sufficiency.

ACTION PROPOSED BY MS. MARY BLANCO: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorses *National Special Education Day*, December 2, 2026, in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.