

Dr. Robert B. Ingram, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FLORIDA, AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF COLLABORATING WITH THE JANELLE'S WISHING WELL FOUNDATION TO PROVIDE PUBLIC AWARENESS ON THE RISK FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE EXPOSURE TO CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Janelle's Wishing Well Foundation was established in honor of Janelle Bertot who lost her life November 14, 2004, as a result of carbon monoxide poisoning. Janelle's family established the foundation to continue her legacy of helping others. The goal of the Janelle's Wishing Well Foundation is to partner with school districts in order to provide community and youth awareness on the potentially deadly results of exposure to carbon monoxide poisoning. Janelle's Wishing Well Foundation will focus on awarding yearly scholarships to students seeking a future in the study of science/biology.

In partnership with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Janelle's Wishing Well Foundation could provide speakers for student health fairs, driver's education courses, and other safety related events to bring awareness to the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning. Janelle's Wishing Well Foundation could also support the District's Wellness Initiative and The Parent Academy by educating the public on the potentially deadly results of exposure to invisible and odorless elements such as carbon monoxide and hopefully prevent future deaths due to carbon monoxide poisoning.

Toxic exposure in South Florida is a continuing problem due to the use of generators during hurricanes, as well as emissions from automobiles. Recognizing that knowledge and awareness are the greatest weapon against ignorance, Janelle's Wishing Well Foundation is determined to educate against this silent killer.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. ROBERT B. INGRAM: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to explore the feasibility of collaborating with the Janelle's Wishing Well Foundation to provide public awareness on the risk factors associated with the exposure to carbon monoxide poisoning and to provide a report to the Board by March 17, 2006.