

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

**SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION OF THE 2019 WALKSAFE STATEWIDE POSTER CONTEST WINNERS**

**COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION & TECHNOLOGY**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC**

**BLUEPRINT: SAFE, HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

The WalkSafe program, a part of the KiDZ Neuroscience Center at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, was developed to improve pedestrian safety and health for elementary school children on a statewide level. The WalkSafe educational component involves a three-day curriculum, which is designed to teach students safe walking skills, and is taught to coincide with the annual Walk to School events during the month of October.

This year the WalkSafe educational curriculum reached close to 115,000 students from 200 public school classrooms across Miami-Dade County with its pedestrian safety lessons. During the 2018-2019 school year students learned about safe street-crossing behaviors, traffic and pedestrian signs and signals, and the health benefits of walking daily. In addition to the curriculum, the WalkSafe team also hosted its annual Statewide Poster Contest to encourage students to promote key pedestrian safety lessons learned from the three-day educational program.

This year, the contest was very competitive with over 100 submissions from 50 elementary schools and K-8 Centers from Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, Orange, and Duval counties. Adjudication of the posters was conducted by the KiDZ Neuroscience Center and the Community Traffic Safety Team.

The Miami-Dade County winners of the 2019 WalkSafe Statewide Poster Contest are:

Grades K-1: Thomas Rodriguez, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, Ojus Elementary  
Grades 2-3: Melanie Melchor, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, Hialeah Elementary  
Grades 4-5: Ashley Miguenz, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Flamingo Elementary

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognize and congratulate the winners of the 2019 WalkSafe Statewide Poster Contest.

**B-6**