

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Board Member

SUBJECT: R E S P E C T TEACHERS CAMPAIGN

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
BLUEPRINT: HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS, LEADERS AN STAFF**

In the continuous debate about how to improve educational standards and student achievement, the role of teachers is paramount. In fact, in recent years it has become a truism that attracting good quality and well-qualified individuals is accepted as the essential prerequisite to raising educational standards and student achievement.

The 2017-2018 school year has come to an end. The remarkable achievements made by this school district are quite impressive and our teachers have been at the forefront of this success in reaching new heights in the teaching and learning process. The School Board and the Superintendent are proactively addressing the need to improve teacher salaries. Their support and commitment for our teachers is unquestionable. We do hear from our teachers and this is the moment to have an honest conversation about the respect our teachers deserve. The time has come for all of us to rebuild the teaching profession, to elevate teachers to a new level, and to make teaching in Miami-Dade County Public Schools not only the most important profession in our community but the most respected profession. There needs to be a massive shift in how teachers are viewed, because we are approaching a point where both students and teachers may become completely uninterested, and in that situation, society as a whole loses.

Therefore, this agenda item seeks approval from the School Board to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to develop and implement the **R E S P E C T** Teachers Campaign in Miami-Dade County Public Schools during the 2018-2019 school year. **R E S P E C T** is an acronym for **R**ecognize, **E**ngage, **S**upport, **P**ersuade, **E**ducate, and **C**elebrate Teachers. This campaign should involve all of Miami-Dade County stakeholders, teachers, administrators, the United Teachers of Dade (UTD), students, parents, the PTA/PTSA, community leaders, institutions of higher learning, legislators, local municipalities, county government, and all interested organizations.

This item has been reviewed and approved by the School Board Attorney's office as to form and legal sufficiency.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MS. MARIA TERESA ROJAS: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent of Schools to develop and implement the **R E S P E C T** Teachers Campaign in Miami-Dade County Public Schools during the 2018-2019 school year and report back to the Board by September 5, 2018.