

Dr. Martin Karp, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 16-062 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING MS. JENNIFER ADAMS**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS**

Jennifer Adams was born with partial limbs, yet she does not consider her struggles a burden, but instead a gift. She has learned that beyond our limitations is fulfillment and understanding the purpose of life. Jennifer is a radiant, high energy spokeswoman who enjoys performing, public speaking, and engaging in adaptive sports.

Jennifer has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Pacific Lutheran University, a certification in Radio Broadcasting, and a master's degree in counseling from Faith Seminary. She is a published author of two books that promote the message of positive change and inclusion.

Through her education, life experience and professional experience, Jennifer started a motivational speaking business, SHIFT, which provides a positive message of acceptance and diversity that changes lives and shifts people's mindsets to see the possibilities beyond their limitations.

Jennifer was crowned Ms. Wheelchair Washington 2013 and went on to compete in the Ms. Wheelchair America Pageant and won the title of Ms. Wheelchair America 2014 with her platform "Inclusion Revolution!" During her reign, she shared the message of her platform in schools, businesses, and conferences all over the nation. She also collaborated with legislators, parent support groups, diversity councils and social awareness committees to create vision and inspiration.

In the summer of 2015 Jennifer founded her non-profit organization Making Dreams Come True. Through her experiences Jennifer was inspired to start an organization that would provide adventure and life resources for people with extra-abilities around the world, so they can connect with their ability to live to the fullest.

Jennifer's passion is to encourage people with extra-abilities to take their gifts and talents out into the world and break down barriers of discrimination. "When we (people with extra-abilities) show the world our talents and strengths, disabilities dissolve and abilities shine forth."

The School Board commends Jennifer Adams for her dedication to improving the lives of the disabled through awareness, acceptance and innovation

**ACTION PROPOSED BY DR. MARTIN KARP:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 16-062 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ms. Jennifer Adams.

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-062  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING MS. JENNIFER ADAMS**

**WHEREAS**, Jennifer Adams was born with partial limbs, yet she does not consider her struggles a burden, but instead a gift, for she has had the privilege to learn that beyond our limitations is fulfillment and life's purpose. Jennifer is a radiant, high energy spokes-woman who enjoys, public speaking, performing and adaptive sports; and

**WHEREAS**, Jennifer has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Pacific Lutheran University, a certification in radio broadcasting, and a master's degree in counseling from Faith Seminary. She has worked in the fields of tele-communications, radio broadcasting, public speaking and education. She is a published author of two books that promote the message of positive change and inclusion; and

**WHEREAS**, through her education, life experience and professional experience, Jennifer started a motivational speaking business, SHIFT, which provides a positive message of acceptance and diversity that changes lives and shifts peoples mindsets to see the possibilities beyond their limitations; and

**WHEREAS**, Jennifer was crowned Ms. Wheelchair Washington 2013 and went on to compete in the Ms. Wheelchair America Pageant and won the title of Ms Wheelchair America 2014 with her platform "Inclusion Revolution!" During her reign she shared the message of her platform in schools, business and conferences all over the nation. She also collaborated with legislators, parent support groups, diversity councils and social awareness committees in order to create vision and inspiration around their collective objectives; and

**WHEREAS**, in the summer of 2015, Jennifer founded her non-profit organization Making Dreams Come True. She has experienced the struggle of limited resources when navigating life with an extra-ability. Yet she has also experienced the true elation that she felt when people stepped in to provide resources for her dreams. The generosity of others opened the door to new adventures that she had dreamed and now lives as a reality. Through these experiences Jennifer was inspired to start an organization that would provide adventure and life resources for people with extra-abilities around the world, so they too can connect with their ability to live unlimited; and

**WHEREAS**, Jennifer's passion is to encourage people with extra-abilities to take their gifts and talents out into the world and break down barriers of discrimination; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 16-062 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida recognizing Ms. Jennifer Adams.

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

**Presented this twenty-second day of June, A.D. 2016**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary