

Dr. Martin Karp, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 14-084
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING SHAPE (STUDENTS HELPING
ACHIEVE PHILANTHROPIC EXCELLENCE)**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

SHAPE's mission is to empower high school students to achieve personal and professional success by providing philanthropic, leadership, career and civic opportunities. SHAPE is an afterschool club that creates high school philanthropists by giving students an opportunity to learn about non-profit organizations and helping them and the community.

The SHAPE program was introduced in four participating South Florida high schools in 2002 as an initiative of the Mark J. Gordon Foundation. In October 2003, SHAPE, Inc. became an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and began its expansion in Broward and Miami-Dade Counties and Vermont. In 2011, SHAPE received a grant from the Children's Trust to target 24 high schools across Miami-Dade County.

Since its inception, SHAPE students have had an incredible impact on the community: students have volunteered over 267,360 community service hours and have funded 151 non-profit organizations totaling over \$423,000.

As of the 2013-2014 school year, SHAPE successfully operates in 42 schools in Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and Orange counties in Florida as well as two schools in Vermont. Schools, teachers and students have reported positive results and the SHAPE Clubs have generated an enthusiastic response from school administrators, School Boards, government and community leaders including Florida Governor Rick Scott and former Florida Governors Charlie Crist and Jeb Bush.

The School Board applauds the efforts of SHAPE and the Mark J. Gordon Foundation for the opportunity to raise awareness and to get involved in service.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. MARTIN KARP: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 14-084 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing SHAPE.

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-084
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING SHAPE (STUDENTS HELPING ACHIEVE PHILANTHROPIC
EXCELLENCE)**

WHEREAS, SHAPE is an afterschool club that creates high school philanthropists by giving students an opportunity to learn about non-profit organizations and helping them and the community; and

WHEREAS, The SHAPE program was introduced in four participating South Florida high schools in 2002 as an initiative of the Mark J. Gordon Foundation and currently operates in 42 schools in Florida and two schools in Vermont and is now funded in part by The Children's Trust; and

WHEREAS, SHAPE engages and empowers high school students through philanthropic activities, leadership opportunities, civic engagement and career development to help them achieve personal and professional success; and

WHEREAS, SHAPE students organized canned food and book drives, sent numerous correspondence to troops in Iraq, visited Alzheimer's patients, helping children from foster and group homes, as well as hundreds of other community service projects; and

WHEREAS, students who participate in SHAPE recognize that life after high school is not simply a series of career decisions. They realize that life is about playing a role in society, giving to others and becoming productive citizens in our democracy; and

WHEREAS, SHAPE is intended to improve the decision-making, coping, and problem-solving skills of the participants as well as help increase leadership skills, community improvements, and volunteerism of those students who complete the program; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 14-084 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing SHAPE.

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

Presented this third day of September, A.D. 2014

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary