

Dr. Martin Karp, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 11-075 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE RENO COCCHI EMPLOYER RECOGNITION AWARD**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

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

On April 28, 2011, the Superintendent's District Advisory Panel for Students with Disabilities held its Annual Award of Excellence Ceremony and Luncheon recognizing students and organizations for their outstanding accomplishments. The District Advisory Panel advocates for students entitled to exceptional student education (ESE) and their families by providing counsel to the Superintendent and District administration in all areas relating to ESE.

This year, seven local organizations were recognized for their exemplary work on behalf of students with disabilities. The DeMoya Group, North Shore Medical Center, Publix #454 at Loehmann's Fashion Island, South Miami Hospital, Miami Veterans Administration Medical Center, Whole Foods Market, and Zoo Miami-Service Systems Associates were the deserving recipients of the Reno Cocchi Employer Recognition Award. The award honorees found innovative ways to employ and train students with disabilities in order to enrich their lives and offer them valuable work and life skills.

The Veteran's Hospital not only hires many individuals with disabilities but also makes accommodations according to their disabilities. Individuals with disabilities receive training for their jobs in a warm environment of respect and friendship. Service Systems Associates is not only committed to student achievement in the workplace but also provides opportunities for social inclusion of employees with disabilities. South Miami Hospital is an inclusive and wonderful setting for students with disabilities. They have continuous communication with their employees. Students working for Whole Foods in this program acknowledge how the company treats all employees with respect. The DeMoya Group employs students with disabilities and makes the employee feel accepted and appreciated. North Shore Medical center has hired over 30 Project Victory students in the food service, operating room, and radiology departments. The Publix Supermarket historically has supported students with disabilities many of whom also participate in Special Olympics. Publix is an inclusive and friendly setting for students with disabilities and is always willing to hire and help them adapt.

**Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends these outstanding organizations for their dedicated work on behalf of students with disabilities and their families. It is a testament to their commitment to education and excellence.**

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

**That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-075 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the recipients of the Reno Cocchi Employer Recognition Award.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-075  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE RENO COCCHI EMPLOYER RECOGNITION  
AWARD**

**WHEREAS**, on April 28, 2011, the Superintendent's District Advisory Panel for Students with Disabilities held its Annual Award of Excellence Ceremony and Luncheon recognizing students and organizations for their outstanding accomplishments; and

**WHEREAS**, the District Advisory Panel advocates for students entitled to exceptional student education (ESE) and their families by providing counsel to the Superintendent and District administration in all areas relating to ESE; and

**WHEREAS**, this year, seven local organizations were recognized for their exemplary work on behalf of students with disabilities and finding innovative ways to employ and train students with disabilities in order to enrich their lives and offer them valuable work and life skills; and

**WHEREAS**, the DeMoya Group, North Shore Medical Center, Publix #454 at Loehmann's Fashion Island, South Miami Hospital, Miami Veterans Administration Medical Center, Whole Foods Market, and Zoo Miami-Service Systems Associates were the deserving recipients of the Reno Cocchi Employer Recognition Award; and

**WHEREAS**, The DeMoya Group employs students with disabilities and makes the employees feel totally accepted and appreciated, North Shore Medical Center has hired over 30 Project Victory students, Publix #454 at Loehmann's Fashion Island is always willing to hire and help students with disabilities adapt, South Miami Hospital gives opportunities and recognizes for jobs well done, Miami Veterans Administration Medical Center provides job training according to their possibilities in a warm environment of respect and friendship, Whole Foods Market treats their employees with respect and included as part of the company's operation, and Zoo Miami-Service Systems Associates provides an opportunity for social inclusion of employees with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County Public Schools commends these outstanding organizations for providing opportunities to students with disabilities. It is a testament to their commitment to education and excellence;

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

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-075 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the recipients of the Reno Cocchi Employer Recognition Award.

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

**Presented this fifteenth day of June A.D. 2011**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary

Office of School Board Members  
Board Meeting of June 15, 2011

June 13, 2011

Dr. Martin Karp, Board Member

**SUBJECT:                   REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 11-078 OF THE  
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING DAVID LAWRENCE JR. K-8 CENTER FOR AN  
IMPRESSIVE FINISH AT THE ODYSSEY OF THE MIND WORLD  
COMPETITION**

**COMMITTEE:               INSTRUCTIONAL       EXCELLENCE       AND       COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

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

Created in 1978, the Odyssey of the Mind is an international education program that challenges students in kindergarten through college to find innovative solutions to problems. Teams must find creative ways to solve problems ranging from presenting classic literary interpretations to building mechanical devices. Students must think out of the box while sharpening their problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Teams from across the United States and 25 other countries participate in the program.

This year, the team from David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center placed first in the Full Circle Division II in the Tropical region and went to represent the state of Florida and the Tropical region at the world competition, where they placed an impressive 13<sup>th</sup> out of 62 teams from around the globe. The team included students Rachel Shapiro, Brianna Hawryluk, Brittany Chandani, Lauren Deleon, Emily Roy, Zachary Gettis, and Toni Correa. The team was coached by Carol Bregman and Laurie Futterman.

The Full Circle problem asked students to create and present a humorous performance, where an object must change forms three times before transforming back to its original state. The performance included a song, a dance, a silly character, a serious character and a surprise ending. In addition, the team is responsible for planning, writing, building and presenting their solutions with minimal help from a teacher or coach.

The students and staff of David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center are to be commended for their dedication and commitment to academic excellence. Under the leadership of Principal Bernard Osborn, the students of the school benefit from activities that build self-esteem and self-confidence, which allows them to reach new heights of achievement.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-078 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center for an impressive finish at the Odyssey of the Mind world competition.

**Revised  
H-18**

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-078  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING DAVID LAWRENCE JR. K-8 CENTER FOR AN IMPRESSIVE  
FINISH AT THE ODYSSEY OF THE MIND WORLD COMPETITION**

**WHEREAS**, created in 1978, the Odyssey of the Mind is an international education program that challenges students in kindergarten through college to find innovative solutions to problem; and

**WHEREAS**, this year, the team from David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center placed first in the Full Circle Division II in the Tropical region and went on to represent the state of Florida and the Tropical region at the world competition, where they placed an impressive 13<sup>th</sup> out of 62 teams from around the globe. The team included students Rachel Shapiro, Brianna Hawryluk, Brittany Chandani, Lauren Deleon, Emily Roy, Zachary Gettis, and Toni Correa. The team was coached by Carol Bregman and Laurie Futterman; and } Added

**WHEREAS**, the Full Circle problem asked students to create and present a humorous performance, where an object must change forms three times before transforming back to its original state; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, the team is responsible for planning, writing, building and presenting their solutions with minimal help from a teacher or coach; and

**WHEREAS**, the students and staff of David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center are to be commended for their dedication and commitment to academic excellence. Under the leadership of Principal Bernard Osborn, the students of the school benefit from activities that build self-esteem and self-confidence, which allows them to reach new heights of achievement;

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

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-078 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center for an impressive finish at the Odyssey of the Mind world competition.

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

**Presented this fifteenth day of June A.D. 2011**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary