

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER NO. LTC # 315-2009

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO:

Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager \

DATE:

November 16, 2009

SUBJECT School Board of Miami-Dade County Recognizes the City of Miami Beach

Committee for Quality Education

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to update the Mayor and Commissioners of the recognition of the City of Miami Beach Committee for Quality Education by the School Board of Miami-Dade County (see attached) on November 17, 2009, for its work on behalf of the students and parents of Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

The Committee for Quality Education in Miami Beach (MBQEC) was established in 1999 for the purpose of guiding the City's efforts toward providing the best education possible in Miami Beach public schools. The Committee is vested with the power and authority to make recommendations to the city commission and to investigate, develop, and carry out plans to promote and ensure the provision of quality education in Miami Beach public The MBQEC meets monthly to address educational issues that range from safety to curriculum development to budgets. The committee is made up of PTSA or parent representatives from all the Miami Beach feeder pattern schools and appointees who represent the commissioners and mayor. Miami Beach principals, school district employees, City of Miami Beach officials and School Board District 3 representatives also attend. With a broad-based agenda, the MBQEC is a group that advises the City on strategies to improve and strengthen education.

The most notable outcome of the committee was a resolution to have a City compact, which became a reality on January 16, 2008. The Compact was a major commitment between the City of Miami Beach and the Miami-Dade County School Board, which included the development of a citywide International Baccalaureate Program. Many other positive outcomes have resulted from the hard work of the MBQEC and the City resulting in City incentives such as discounts, mentoring and training programs for District employees, an education page on the City website, collaboration on legislative agendas in support of public education, and partnerships with community agencies to provide student employment opportunities. Other outcomes include maintaining health clinics at schools, coordinating Health Connect on Wheels, establishing a middle school after school program, and providing school access to City culture/art programs. The level of academic achievement improved throughout the City of Miami Beach in 2008-2009 as all the elementary, K-8, and middle schools received "A" grades and the high school earned a "B."

The Committee has made a large impact throughout the entire county as the Compact between the City and the School Board is a model of how a city education committee can strengthen the relationship between our schools and our municipalities.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

JMG/KGB/ldr

Attachment

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Dr. Martin Karp, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 09-

125 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH COMMITTEE FOR QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ITS WORK ON BEHALF OF THE STUDENTS AND PARENTS OF

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY

ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN: INCREASE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF ALL

STUDENTS

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The most notable outcome of the committee was a resolution to have a City compact, which became a reality on January 16, 2008. The Compact was a major commitment between the City of Miami Beach and the Miami-Dade County School Board, which included the development of a citywide International Baccalaureate Program. Many other positive outcomes have resulted from the hard work of the MBQEC and the City resulting in City incentives such as discounts, mentoring and training programs for District employees, an education page on the City website, collaboration on legislative agendas in support of public education, and partnerships with community agencies to provide student employment opportunities. Other outcomes include maintaining health clinics at schools, coordinating Health Connect on Wheels, establishing a middle school after school program, and providing school access to City culture/art programs. The level of academic achievement improved throughout the City of Miami Beach in 2008-2009 as all the elementary, K-8, and middle schools received "A" grades and the high school earned a "B."

Revised H-11 Mayor Matti Bower, the commission, and the MBQEC were and continue to be instrumental in fostering a strong relationship with the school district. Under the leadership of City Manager Jorge Gonzalez, the City of Miami Beach Liaison Dr. Leslie Rosenfeld and past Chairs including Kay Coulter, Karen Rivo and Evelyn Lampner, the Committee has made a large impact throughout the entire county as the Compact between the City and the School Board is a model of how a city education committee can strengthen the relationship between our schools and our municipalities.

ACTION PROPOSED BY DR. MARTIN KARP:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-125 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the City of Miami Beach Committee for Quality Education for its work on behalf of the students and parents of Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-125

OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH COMMITTEE FOR QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ITS

WORK ON BEHALF OF THE STUDENTS AND PARENTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, created in 1999 by City ordinance, the Miami Beach Quality for Education Committee was established for the purpose of guiding the city's efforts toward providing the best education possible in Miami Beach public schools. The committee addresses educational issues that range from safety to curriculum development to budgets; and

WHEREAS, the Miami Beach Quality for Education Committee proposed the idea for the City of Miami Beach to enter into an education compact with Miami-Dade County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, the Miami Beach Quality for Education Committee was and continues to be instrumental in fostering a strong relationship with the school district, and being instrumental to improved academic achievement throughout Miami Beach Feeder Pattern. In 2008-2009 all the elementary, K-8, and middle schools received an "A" grade and the high school earned a "B";

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution 09-125 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the City of Miami Beach Committee for Quality Education for its work on behalf of the students and parents of Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

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

Presented this seventeenth day of November, A.D. 2009

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

	CHAIR	
ATTEST:		
Secretary		