



Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

The School Board of Miami-Dade County

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BOARD CHAIR APPROVES SIX ITEMS RECOGNIZING A STUDENT WINNER, A GLOBAL INITIATIVE AND THREE NATIONAL SAFETY INITIATIVES

The School Board unanimously approved six items proposed by Board Chair Perla Tabares Hantman at its regular school board meeting March 9, 2011. The items recognized a student writer, endorsed three national health and children's safety initiatives and also recognized a global initiative. In addition, March 2011 was recognized as "Education Month".

"I would like to congratulate Michael Orr, for his hard work and perseverance. I am proud to bring forward initiatives that help raise students' consciousness about health and safety and that also prepares them for life beyond the classroom, as citizens of the world," said Ms. Hantman.

The Board voted to:

- Recognize and congratulate Michael Orr from Here's Help, a Miami-Dade County Public Schools Educational Alternative Outreach Program, for winning the NBC Miami Homeroom Reformers Student Essay Contest.
- Proclaim April 22, 2011 as *Earth Day* in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.
- Endorse March 20-26, 2011 as National Poison Prevention Week
- Endorse adding four schools to the Safe Routes to School grant program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation.
- Endorse April 4-10, 2011 as National Public Health Week



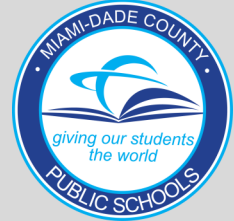
Michael Orr, the winner of the Homeroom Reformers Student Essay Contest received recognition from Perla Tabares Hantman, School Board Chair. Michael Orr is part of Here's Help, a Miami-Dade County Public Schools Educational Alternative Outreach Program.

BOARD CHAIR APPROVES TWO ITEMS REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

The Board unanimously approved the endorsement of April 2011 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month, and also voted to have the superintendent review the District's current policies and procedures, to ascertain whether they should be revised to enhance and facilitate reporting by school staff of suspected child abuse.

"The endorsement of April as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month is an initiative I sponsor every year that reflects our commitment to provide a safe and nurturing learning environment for all students," said Ms. Hantman. "In light of recent reports of tragic events, a review of the District's policies and procedures are in order to determine whether they should be modified," said Ms. Hantman.

Twenty-eight years ago, Congress declared the month of April as National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month to raise awareness of child abuse and neglect and to encourage individuals and communities to support prevention efforts and programs.



Upcoming

Dates to Note:

April School Board Meeting
April 13, 2011

April FCAT Testing
April 11-14, 2011

Earth Day
April 22, 2011

District 4 School Highlights

Ms. Lauren Murray, from **Miami Lakes Senior High School** was selected as a finalist for the Carnival Miami Cooking Contest, won 1st place and received a \$400.00 prize. Congratulations!

Students at **Jose Marti Middle School** are participating in "The No Excuses University Endeavor". The endeavor is sponsored by McDonalds and designed by Turn-around Schools in California. The No Excuses University Endeavor is a very simple and powerful notion, that students can achieve higher levels of learning when they are given an extraordinary positive learning environment.

West Hialeah Gardens Elementary has met eligibility criteria for national recognition from The Alliance for a Healthier Generation. The school has been selected to participate in the 2011 TIMSS (Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study) and PIRLS (Progress in International Reading Study).

Hialeah Middle School has been selected by the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation to receive the following: \$4,400 towards the repair of 18 instruments plus: 1 pair crash cymbals, 1 double French horn, 1 bass clarinet, 3 refurbished trumpets and 1 tenor saxophone.