

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE REQUESTING THAT THE CITY COMMISSION DIRECT STAFF TO CONDUCT A STATISTICALLY REPRESENTATIVE SURVEY OF CORAL GABLES RESIDENTS REGARDING EDUCATION AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND INCLUDE EDUCATION IN THE 2026-2029 CORAL GABLES STRATEGIC PLAN.

WHEREAS, the purpose of the School Community Relations Committee (SCRC) is to provide an opportunity for dialogue and collaboration between schools and their neighbors, including the City of Coral Gables and look for opportunities to improve schools in terms of physical appearance, community involvement, and quality of education; and

WHEREAS, during the May 19, 2023, SCRC meeting, a discussion item regarding supplemental funding for area schools by the city to address deepening budgetary pressures on public schools was heard; and

WHEREAS, at the July 11, 2023, City Commission meeting, during the discussion of agenda item 2.-1, the Commission instructed the SCRC to provide direction on a strategic plan of action to promote educational excellence in Coral Gables; and

WHEREAS the SCRC on Oct. 13, 2023, held a workshop to discuss a strategic vision for education in Coral Gables, during which it was decided that the best course of action to develop this strategic vision would be to conduct a satisfaction and educational needs survey; and

WHEREAS the SCRC on Nov. 17, 2023, held their monthly meeting to further discuss the best course of action to present this request to the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Gables Education Initiative, a grassroots coalition supported by the PTSAs of seven area schools, has highlighted researchⁱ from the National Bureau of Economic Researchⁱⁱ and National Association of Realtorsⁱⁱⁱ demonstrating that spending on education boosts property values, attracts investment and contributes to economic development; and

WHEREAS, annual spending by MDCPS of \$11,231 per pupil^{iv} at its over 300 schools trails funding levels at similarly-sized school districts as well as the national average of \$14,347; and

WHEREAS, numerous municipalities in Miami Dade county have signed compacts^v with M-DCPS, to provide a direct financial investment in education from their operating budget^{vi}.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA THAT:

SECTION 1. That the foregoing “WHEREAS” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. That the SCRC requests the City Commission to direct staff to include a focus area or goal related to education, the enhancing of Coral Gables’ learning landscape and the marketing of the City Brilliant in the forthcoming City strategic plan.

SECTION 3. That the SCRC requests the City Commission initiate the aforementioned strategic planning effort with the hiring of a qualified consultant to conduct a statistically relevant opinion survey to identify residents’ priorities for education. The survey’s questions should be crafted with input from the SCRC.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS SEVENTEETH DAY OF NOVEMBER, A.D. 2023

APPROVED:

CORAL GABLES
SCHOOL COMMUNITY RELATIONS
COMMITTEE

ⁱ https://www.nber.org/system/files/working_papers/w20847/w20847.pdf

ⁱⁱ <https://www.nber.org/digest/jan03/school-spending-raises-property-values>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.nar.realtor/sites/default/files/documents/2023-home-buyers-and-sellers-generational-trends-report-03-28-2023.pdf>

^{iv} <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2021/econ/school-finances/secondary-education-finance.html>

^v <https://intergovaffairs.dadeschools.net/#!/rightColumn/2161>

^{vi} <https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/city-hall/office-of-organizational-development/education/>