

Dr. Marta Pérez, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 07-12 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, HONORING JUSTIN KOREN AND MAGNETIC THEATRICALS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THEATRE IN OUR COMMUNITY

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN: ACTIVELY ENGAGE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO BECOME OUR PARTNERS IN RAISING AND MAINTAINING HIGH STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Justin Koren, actor, director, playwright and a 2000 recipient of the Silver Knight Award for drama, has recently dazzled, moved, and thoroughly impressed Miami audiences with his brainchild, *Defining Code Red*, a play based on the tragic events at Southwood Middle School in 2004. The play has received lavish praise from local critics as well as prominent members of the community, for its sensitivity, insight into a disturbing social phenomenon, as well as artistic merit.

Justin Koren founded Magnetic Theatricals, a non-profit organization, in 2005, to promote art and foster increased community awareness of relevant and diverse issues. In its brief history, the organization has received overwhelming community support from both the private and public sectors. He is also the company's Producing Artistic Director.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTA PÉREZ:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 07-12 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, honoring Justin Koren and Magnetic Theatricals for their contribution to the theatre in Miami-Dade County, Florida

**RESOLUTION NO. 07-12
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
HONORING JUSTIN KOREN AND MAGNETIC THEATRICALS
FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THEATER
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, Mr. Justin Koren, a graduate of Miami-Dade County Public Schools was the 2000 recipient of the Silver Knight Award for drama; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Justin Koren founded Magnetic Theatricals, Inc., in 2005, to promote art and foster increased community awareness of relevant and diverse issues; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Justin Koren wrote, produced, and directed *Defining Code Red*, a play based on the tragic events that occurred at Southwood Middle School in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Sally Bondi, Marc Fajer, Kyle Freeman, Ratreisia T. Ferguson, Terry Doe, Madelin Marchant, Francisco Padura, Paul Poppe, Catherine A. Williams, Fiorella Bianchi, Amber Layne, Jose Marti, and Julian Rincon are the cast members of *Defining Code Red*, some of which are currently employed as teachers in Miami-Dade County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, *Defining Code Red* made its Miami debut on February 23, 2007, receiving lavish praise from local critics and prominent members of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve resolution No. 07-12 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, honoring Justin Koren and Magnetic Theatricals for their contribution to theatre in Miami-Dade County.

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

Presented this 14th day of March, A.D. 2007

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY