

**RESOLUTION NO. 07- 486**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS' LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE TO RAISE PER-PUPIL FUNDING AND AMEND THE CLASSROOMS FOR KIDS ALLOCATION FORMULA; DIRECTING THE TOWN CLERK TO FORWARD THE RESOLUTION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Miami Lakes (the "Town") believes that funding a high-quality education system is an investment in the ability to compete nationally and globally in the marketplace; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Constitution provides that the education of children is a fundamental value of the people of Florida and a paramount duty of the State; and

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution creates a clear mandate for a uniform and high quality education system and for the State to make adequate provision for this purpose; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida is one of the leaders in the nation in mandating public school educational accountability measures and The School Board of Miami-Dade County (the "School Board") has earned a second straight grade of B in the state accountability system, falling just seven points short of the cutoff score for a grade of A; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of schools in Miami-Dade County, Florida, receiving a letter grade of A increased to 53% - highest percentage ever- despite tougher state guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the School Board has constructed an additional 20,000 new student seats to address overcrowding using local funding; and

**WHEREAS**, the School Board will need approximately \$180 million in new monies above current funding levels to continue program enhancements; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida employers consistently rank improving education and workforce development as top concerns to the success of their business, and a highly qualified, trained workforce is critical to strengthening our business climate; and

**WHEREAS**, the education system needs to respond to the workforce needs of Florida's employers, including programs that expand career academies in high schools, aligning career education with industry standards and workforce demands, and expanding options for students to continue their education and enter the workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, the pre-K-20 education system is a key foundation for Florida's future providing the talent base for economic diversification and an economic engine for the knowledge economy, and Florida should continue to move its education system at all levels (pre-K-20) into the top quartile in education quality, student rankings and graduation rates based on national standards: and

**WHEREAS**, the Town believes that adequate funding is needed to achieve a high-quality education system measured by student achievement.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.**     **Recitals.**     The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

**Section 2.**     **Support.**     The Town hereby supports the Miami-Dade County Public Schools' legislative initiative and requests that the Florida Legislature support: (i) appropriate adequate funding to raise Miami-Dade's per-pupil funding sufficient to provide a rigorous, high quality educational experience for every student; and (ii) continue Initiatives that are successfully raising student achievement in the District; and (iii) amending the Classrooms for Kids allocation formula for capital outlay funding to reflect actual capital outlay need.

**Section 3.**     **Direction to the Town Clerk.**     The Town Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Governor and all appropriate State officials.

**Section 4. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2007.

Motion to adopt by Mary Collins, second by Roberto Alonso.

FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION

Mayor Wayne Slaton	<u>yes</u>
Vice Mayor Mary Collins	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember Roberto Alonso	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember Robert Meador	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember Michael Pizzi	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember Richard Pulido	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember Nancy Simon	<u>yes</u>

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of January 2007.

ATTEST:

Wayne Slaton

Wayne Slaton  
MAYOR

Debra Eastman

Debra Eastman, MMC  
TOWN CLERK

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency  
for use only by the Town of Miami Lakes:

WSS

Weiss Serota Helfman Pastoriza  
Cole & Boniske, P.A.  
TOWN ATTORNEY