

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT EARLY CHILDCARE PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM ("PROGRAM") FOR MIAMI BEACH RESIDENTS, SUBJECT TO FUNDING APPROPRIATION AND APPROVAL BY THE CITY COMMISSION DURING THE BUDGETARY PROCESS FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR; INCREASING FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$475,000, ANNUALLY, WITH \$3,000 PER CHILD COMMENCING AS OF THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR; AND FURTHER, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE ANY REQUIRED AGREEMENTS AND DOCUMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM.**

**WHEREAS**, on December 9, 2015, the City Commission passed and adopted Resolution No. 2015-29222, authorizing the City Manager to negotiate an agreement (the "Agreement") with Miami-Dade County Public Schools ("M-DCPS"), for the City to provide funding to M-DCPS for one prekindergarten classroom ("VPK") at each of the following schools: Biscayne Beach Elementary School and Miami Beach Fienberg/Fisher K-8 (the "CMB VPK classrooms"); and

**WHEREAS**, CMB and M-DCPS executed the Agreement, dated February 10, 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, the prekindergarten services offered at Biscayne Elementary School and Fienberg/Fisher K-8 Center, under the terms of the Agreement, served the City of Miami Beach resident children from the following four targeted schools: Biscayne Beach Elementary School, Miami Beach Fienberg/Fisher K-8, North Beach Elementary School, and Miami Beach South Pointe Elementary School, following the Registration and Lottery Procedures for school years 2016/17, 2017/18, and 2018/19; and

**WHEREAS**, at the January 15, 2020 City Commission meeting, a referral was made to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee ("FERC") to discuss the funding of an Early Childcare Pilot Program; and

**WHEREAS**, at its July 17, 2020 meeting, FERC recommended to fund an Early Childcare Pilot Program for implementation in the 2021-2022 school year, with funding in the amount of \$250,000 to be allocated from Fiscal Year 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the details of FERC's recommendation for the Early Childcare Pilot Program are outlined as follows:

1. Eligibility requirements for all Miami Beach child applicants and Miami Beach partner childcare providers:
  - a. Child must be 4 years old on or before September 1 of enrollment school year to enroll;
  - b. Child's parent/legal guardian must be a resident of the City of Miami Beach upon submission of application and throughout the year of program participation 2021-2022.
2. Eligibility requirements for all partner childcare providers:

Early childcare center must meet Florida Statutes applicable sections to be eligible to offer prekindergarten as a public school provider, nonpublic school provider or faith-based provider.

1. Be licensed as a childcare facility under s.402.305, F.S., family day care home under s. 402.313, F.S., or large family childcare facility under s.402.313, F.S.; or
2. Be licensed exempt under s. 402.3025(2), F.S. (nonpublic schools) or s. 402.316, F.S. (for faith-based providers), and
  - a. Hold a Gold Seal Quality Care designation under s. 402.281, F.S.;
  - b. Each agency must apply for Gold Seal with Department of Children and Families;
  - c. Or be accredited by an accrediting association that is a member of
    - i. National Council for Private School Accreditation
    - ii. The Florida Association of Academic Nonpublic Schools
3. The requested funding in the amount of \$250,000 for prekindergarten stipend will be distributed as follows: \$250,000 funds will be available to eligible applicants and equally apportioned among eligible children in an amount not to exceed \$2,700 per child, for maximum hourly rate of \$6.00 per hour, up to 2.5 hours for 180 days; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 29, 2020, the Mayor and City commission adopted Resolution No. 2020-31375, authorizing a Prekindergarten Pilot Program for the 2021-22 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 5, 2021, the City conducted a computerized lottery to determine the order in which applicants would be screened to determine eligibility based on residency status of the primary parent/guardian and age of the applicant child; and

**WHEREAS**, as of May 3, 2021, agreements have been executed with fifteen (15) Prekindergarten providers to partner with the City to expand PreK access to Miami Beach families during the 2021-22 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, at the March 17, 2021 City Commission meeting, a referral was made to FERC to discuss the extension of the funding for the Early Childcare Prekindergarten Pilot Program to the 2022-23 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 30, 2021, FERC members voted unanimously to support the extension of the City's Prekindergarten Pilot Program for the 2022-23 school year, at an amount of \$250,000, for approximately 92 Miami Beach youth, at \$2,700 per child for 180 days of service at \$6.00 per hour for an additional 2.5 hours a day; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 12, 2021, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution 2021-31712, accepting FERC's recommendation and extending the Prekindergarten Pilot Program and its funding for the 2022-2023 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, in the Letter to Commission (LTC #488-2021) dated November 9, 2021, City Manager Alina Hudak provided an update on the status of the Pilot Program, with 77 Prekindergarten youth currently participating; and

**WHEREAS**, access to Prekindergarten programs allows children to build a strong foundation in social, pre-academic, and general life skills that will give them an advantage in school and beyond; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that children who graduate from preschool have improved academic readiness, lower incarceration rates, and higher earnings; and

**WHEREAS**, making the Prekindergarten Pilot Program a permanent, annual program, and increasing funding at \$3,000 per child, in a total amount not to exceed \$475,000 per school year, would benefit many Miami Beach families and ensure that children of all socioeconomic and racial backgrounds will have the opportunity to attend well-designed, high-quality preschool.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA**, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby establish a permanent Early Childcare Prekindergarten Program ("Program") for Miami Beach residents, subject to funding appropriation and approval by the City Commission during the budgetary process for each fiscal year; increase funding for the Program, in an amount not to exceed \$475,000, annually, with \$3,000 per child commencing as of the 2023-24 school year; and further, authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to execute any required agreements and documents to implement the Program.

**PASSED and ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Gelber, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Commissioner Mark Samuelian)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney *AA*

11-29-21  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date