

# **First Move Implementation Broward County Public Schools Executive Summary**

First Move is a curriculum designed for second and third grade students. In June 2014, the Board approved funding for a two-year implementation of the program during the 2014-15 and 2015-16 school years. The Board also requested that continuation in the program beyond the first two years come at no cost to the schools and centers. Accordingly, this item comes as a funding request for continued participation in the program, at a cost of \$75 per classroom, is being requested for the 2016-17 school year. The source of funds is the General Fund fund balance.

## **Areas of Success:**

- All elementary schools and grade appropriate center schools are participating and implementing the program, thereby creating the largest scholastic chess implementation in the nation.
- Students across the school district continue to embrace the program with excitement.
- The Chess Lady visits and assemblies have taken place at 65 schools and centers throughout the district. These visits are greeted with awe-inspiring enthusiasm. Additional visits will be offered for the 2016-17 school year.
- Several elementary schools hosted Family Chess Nights, Chess Tournaments, and other family chess integration events. Five school Family Chess Nights with The Chess Lady were held. These events have been highlighted by local news media.
- Monthly “Mayor’s Chess Challenges” now occur throughout Broward County. The Chess Lady has made an appearance at two of these events. These events are scheduled to continue and multiply for the 2016-17 school year.
- Due to significant interest in scholastic chess, expansion for students in upper grade levels continues to grow through additional partnerships. This has become evident through an increasing number of chess clubs, chess tournaments, and community chess events.
- Broward County was showcased and represented at the American Foundation for Chess “Chess Works” gala in New York City.
- A summer chess workshop was offered, free of charge, by First Move to any interested 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers during the summer of 2015. Approximately 150 teachers attended this training to enhance and extend their chess knowledge and create on-site “experts”.
- First Move has provided face-to-face training for all teachers in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. This will continue for the 2016-17 school year.
- Several Broward County Public Schools students have been recognized as winning national on-line chess tournaments offered through The American Foundation for Chess.