



*The School Board of Broward County, Florida*

# RESOLUTION

No. 14-72

## RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH ~ MAY 2014

WHEREAS, childhood is a time for children to develop and learn in a nurturing, safe and permanent home, sadly there are more than half a million children in the United States, more than eighteen thousand children in the State of Florida, and more than fourteen hundred children in Broward County who are unable to remain at home through no fault of their own; and

WHEREAS, safe places to live and emotional support are provided for many of these troubled children through Foster Care programs across America, in Florida and in Broward County; and

WHEREAS, many extraordinary people give generously of their time, their homes, their resources and their love to provide a haven for foster children where they can feel safe and valued; and

WHEREAS, in Broward County, ChildNet, the Community Based Lead Agency, coordinates the management of 455 licensed foster homes in Broward County, oversees the care of 602 children who are placed in these homes, and provides financial aid to parents trying to reunify their families; and

WHEREAS, the Guardian ad Litem Program (GAL) is a partnership of community advocates and professional staff, 600 volunteers strong in Broward County, who provide independent advocacy and a powerful voice on behalf of thousands of abused, abandoned and neglected dependent children, and who work in collaboration with the ChildNet system and the dependency court system to ensure all children obtain the services they need; and

WHEREAS, Broward County Public Schools recognizes the needs of foster children by providing a trained educator at each school site to work with foster parents and placed foster children; and

WHEREAS, although in Broward County there were 769 children reunified and 190 children adopted last year, there remains a tremendous need for more families willing to provide foster care for or to adopt children; and

WHEREAS, during National Foster Care Month, we recognize the devotion, caring and selflessness of foster parents, faith-based and community organizations, advocacy groups, mentors, and tutors who strive to ensure that these children receive rich opportunities and the support they need to reach their full potential.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that The School Board of Broward County, Florida, hereby extends its support for:

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH  
MAY 2014

and urges all schools, centers and departments and the entire community to make this a time to recognize and celebrate those who make a difference in the lives of children in Foster Care programs.

Given at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this 17th day of December 2013.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia Good, Chair

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robert W. Runcie, Superintendent of Schools