

Proclamation

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

WHEREAS, commitment to high quality pre-kindergarten provides significant benefits to children, families, and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, evidence-based research shows that all children regardless of whether they are from poor, middle-or upper-income families, benefit from high-quality pre-kindergarten programs; and

WHEREAS, children who participate in high-quality pre-kindergarten programs require less special education, are less likely to repeat a grade, are less likely to need child welfare services, are less likely to engage in criminal behavior, and once they enter the workforce have higher incomes; and

WHEREAS, investment in high-quality pre-kindergarten has significant implications for future government budgets, at the national, state and city level and these benefits have been laid out by current Federal Reserve Chairman; and

WHEREAS, high-quality preschool education depends on effective, high-quality teachers the most effective pre-kindergarten teachers – those with at least a four-year college degree and specialized training in early childhood – have more responsive interactions with children, provide richer language and cognitive experiences, and are less authoritarian.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROBERT L. VERNON, MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF KEY BISCAIYNE, FLORIDA DO HEREBY ENDORSE

“BACHELOR DEGREED TEACHERS FOR ALL PRE-K CLASSROOMS IN FLORIDA BY 2013”

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE VILLAGE OF KEY BISCAIYNE THIS 24TH DAY OF MARCH, 2009.

MAYOR ROBERT L. VERNON

Conchita Alvarez

From: Isabel Callejas [icallejas@iamforkids.org]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2009 1:19 PM
To: Conchita Alvarez
Subject: Mayor's Proclamation in support of Pre-K degreed teachers
Attachments: Mayor's proclamation2008-2009-2.doc

Good day, Ms. Alvarez

My name is Isabel Callejas and I am a Public Policy Intern at the Children's Campaign in Tallahassee. I am contacting you about an important Initiative that the Children's Campaign is leading and would like to invite the Village of Key Biscayne to become a part of it.

The Children's Campaign is partnering with Mayors around the state to support legislation that would mandate degreed teachers for Pre-K and the appropriations for these teachers by the year 2013. This legislation has bi-partisan support in both the Senate and the House. Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan of Gainesville serving in her role as Chair of the Mayors has written an email to all Mayors requesting their support. I am attaching a copy of the proclamation to this e-mail. The mayor's support is needed as soon as possible in order to move forward in a campaign in support of quality early education programs in Florida. We have received the endorsement of over forty five mayors throughout the state thus far.

I am attaching a copy of the proclamation to this email. It can be added to your city's official proclamation and may be sent by mail to:

Campaign, Inc.
487-1 E. Tennessee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me at 850-425-2600. If I am not in the office, Pattie Crenshaw, Chelsea England or Linda Alexionok will be able to assist you as well.

Thank you

Isabel Callejas
Public Policy Intern
Children's Campaign INC.