

Miami, Florida, February 3rd, 2016.

## To whom it may concern

Miami-Dade County Public Schools

On behalf of the Consulate General of Mexico in Miami, I am writing to commend Miami Community Charter School's (MCCS) bilingual program. Such program provides a key opportunity for its students: the ability of being fluent not only in two languages, but also in two cultures. Taking into account that South Florida is an important hub for business, trade and technology with the Americas, being bilingual brings a wide range of opportunities.

The Consulate General of Mexico in Miami and the Institute of Mexicans Abroad value highly the potential of this program and have partnered to provide instructional materials in Spanish for its students. Furthermore, MCCS has become a key partner in terms of education and culture in South Dade for the Consulate.

Personally, I have witnessed the impact of the program in the youngest schoolchildren of MCCS. A few months ago, I visited the school and had the opportunity of interacting with its faculty and students. The closeness of MCCS with its surrounding community and its clear goal of integration to provide better opportunities truly caught my attention. It is also important to note that an increasing percentage of families in Florida City have at least one member who is foreign born, highlighting the role of schools as vehicles for integration.

Taking into account the aforementioned considerations, I am certain that MCCS's bilingual program can reach its full potential in providing very valuable opportunities for the youth in Florida City and South Dade.

Best regards,

José Antonio Zabalgoitia

Consul General