



*The School Board of Broward County, Florida*

# RESOLUTION

No. 09-35

## DISABILITY MENTORING DAY - OCTOBER 15, 2008

**WHEREAS**, more than one million people with disabilities have entered the labor force since the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990; and

**WHEREAS**, taxpayers, consumers, and workers, people with disabilities are contributing to our society and to their own fulfillment of the American dream; and,

**WHEREAS**, new generations of young people with disabilities are growing up in Broward County, Florida, graduating from high school, going to college, and preparing to participate in the workplace; and,

**WHEREAS**, job seekers with disabilities, regardless of age, are striving to attain economic independence through self-sufficiency and gainful employment; and,

**WHEREAS**, both students and job seekers with disabilities have the right to maximize their potential by making the most of their intellect, talents, and abilities in an environment free of physical, programmatic, and attitudinal barriers; and,

**WHEREAS**, the month of October was first declared National Disability Employment Awareness Month by the U.S. Congress in 1945 and U. S. Department of Labor supports "Workers with Disabilities: Ready for Tomorrow's Jobs Today"; and

**WHEREAS**, Disability Mentoring Day, planned in conjunction with National Disability Employment Month, provides an opportunity for students and job seekers with all types of disabilities to gain insight into career options by spending part of their day in the workplace "shadowing" an employee as he or she goes through a normal day on the job; and

**WHEREAS**, employers from the private, governmental, and non-profit sectors may benefit from mentoring people with disabilities as a way of learning about the experience of disability, developing lasting relationships with disability community leaders, and recruiting new and emerging talent for meaningful internships and employment opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, these efforts are made possible through broad partnerships at the national, state, and local level: the American Association of People with Disabilities, supported by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disabilities Employment Policy; the Able Trust, supported by the Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Agency for Persons with Disabilities, and chaired by Harris Rosen, President of Rosen Hotels & Resorts; and the Center for Independent Living of Broward, supported by Workforce One, and The School Board of Broward County, Florida, along with private corporations such as Clear Channel Radio, non-profit organizations such as Volunteer Florida and Florida Mentoring Partnership, colleges and universities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The School Board of Broward County, Florida does hereby proclaim Wednesday, October 15, 2008 as:

## DISABILITY MENTORING DAY

In Broward County and encourage all citizens to recognize the enormous potential of people with disabilities and to work toward their full integration into the workforce.

Given at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this 7th day of October 2008.

## THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robin Bartleman, Chair

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
James F. Notter, Superintendent of Schools