RESOLUTION

No. 20-81

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH - APRIL 2020

WHEREAS, April is Autism Awareness Month, across the United States and beyond, the autism community is celebrating its members and holding special events to raise awareness and funding for research; and

WHEREAS, Autism Awareness Month, celebrated every year in April, provides an opportunity for families, friends, and local communities to raise public awareness about autism; and

WHEREAS, Autism affects one in every 60 children in the United States, and is the fastest growing developmental disability according to the recent estimates from the Centers for Disease Control; and

WHEREAS, there are over 6,100 students in Broward County Public Schools with Autism Spectrum Disorder; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has deemed it necessary to sustain an Autism Task Force in the State of Florida to target issues specific to those with autism; and

WHEREAS, Autism is a complex developmental disability that affects an individual's social interaction and communication. It is known as a spectrum disorder because it affects each individual in different ways and to varying degrees; and

WHEREAS, children and adults with autism tend to have difficulty with verbal and nonverbal communications, social interactions, and leisure or play activities; and

WHEREAS, educating children with autism is a challenge for both parents and teachers. These children are individuals first and foremost with unique strengths and weaknesses; and

WHEREAS, Broward County Public Schools support quality educational programs which emphasize communication, socialization, structured and sound academics; and

WHEREAS, April is deemed as a national month of Autism Awareness.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that The School Board of Broward County, Florida, hereby extends its support of the intent of Autism Awareness Month to be celebrated in

APRIL 2020

and urges all schools, centers, and departments within its jurisdiction to support this community-wide observance.

Given at Fort Lauderdale, Florida this 20th day of August 2019.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: [Signature]
Heather P. Brinkworth, Chair

ATTEST: [Signature]
Robert W. Runcie, Superintendent of Schools