

**Dr. Martin S. Karp** is Vice-Chair of the Miami-Dade County School Board. He previously served in that position during the 2006-2007, 2012-2013 and 2017-2018 school years.

He began his service on the School Board after being first elected in 2004. He served as the School Board's representative on The Children's Trust from 2005-2013, and he is currently a School Board appointed representative for the Executive Board of the New World School of the Arts, Friends of WLRN, and WLRN's Community Advisory Board.

A lifelong resident of Miami-Dade County, Dr. Karp attended the University of Miami, where he earned a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership, a Master of Science in Education, and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing. He also earned a master's degree as part of a joint M.S. and M.B.A. program from the Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University.

Dr. Karp has dedicated himself to championing a wide range of educational causes and programs for all children throughout Miami-Dade. He helped launch the gifted program at Biscayne Elementary School (now Biscayne Beach Elementary School) 28 years ago, establishing an unprecedented model partnering a private and public school to recruit student participants from both. Dr. Karp founded and produced a weekly children's television show, WKDZ Kids' World that aired on Cable TAP's community access channels and WLRN channel 17. He guided and supported educational programming on WPBT channel 2 and appeared on the television program, *Issues and the Media*. He also spearheaded two radio talk shows, which he produced and hosted for local A.M. stations. The programs highlighted educational issues including school choice, dropout prevention, charter schools, overcrowding and bilingual education. Among the regularly featured guests were authors, adoption specialists and representatives from children advocacy groups, including organizations that addressed teen delinquency and support for the underprivileged.

Dr. Karp is a strong advocate for interest and needs-based learning which hones educational strategies to address each child as an individual learner. He has worked to ensure that students with disabilities receive appropriate services and support, and created board policy which led to greater access to hands-on science courses and dramatic increases in science fair participation. Dr. Karp has also committed himself to decreasing the number of high school dropouts and increasing graduation rates by introducing City Year, AVID and College Summit programs that have been embedded in schools across the district. He created a working group with support from the Education Fund that united college representatives and promoted the recruitment of students who would otherwise be overlooked for postsecondary educational opportunities.

Also, while serving on the Board, he has proffered Board items for children with disabilities, gifted students, children in foster care and students whose families face foreclosure. He has introduced numerous items addressing student health and safety. He founded a countywide initiative known as the H.O.P.E. (Help Overcome Pet Euthanasia) Contest, which provides a platform for students to engage in problem-solving activities addressing pet overpopulation in the community. More than 10,000 students have participated in the Contest since its inception 24 years ago. Dr. Karp continues to coordinate the Contest today.

In recognition of his dedication to advancing education for all children, Dr. Karp, who is an Eagle Scout, has received many awards including the "Cervantes Outstanding Educator Award." This year, he was inducted into the Miami Beach Senior High School Hall of Fame.

Dr. Karp and his wife, Danielle, are the proud parents of Herschel, Benjamin and Samson Raphael. Together, they enjoy Scouting, reading, attending Highland Lakes Shul, playing sports and volunteering.