

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 99-14 PROCLAIMING
APRIL 18-24, 1999 AS THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD**

**STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS: I - EARLY INTERVENTION
 VI - EFFECTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT
 IX - COMMUNITY/HOME/PARENT/SCHOOL/
 BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS**

The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration each April sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the nation's largest organization of early child care and education professionals. In Miami-Dade County, this event is spearheaded by the local affiliate, the South Florida Association for Young Children (SFAYC). The purpose of the Week of the Young Child is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to support the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

Early childhood years (birth through age 8) lay the foundation for children's success in school and later in life. The Week of the Young Child is a time to focus on the needs of young children and families and to commit ourselves to ensuring that each and every child receives the type of early environment - at home, at early childhood centers, at school, and in the community - that will promote his or her early learning.

Celebrations will take place at public schools, private early education and care centers as well as malls. Citizens of Miami-Dade County, Florida will be provided with many opportunities to learn about and participate in activities that promote the well-being and education of young children and their families. These activities will include the dissemination of current information regarding brain research, the importance of providing age-appropriate teaching and learning strategies for young children, a "Meet the Authors" event featuring creative efforts of young children, read aloud sessions at regional libraries and bookstores, and "make and take" activity sessions that will provide parents with interesting and educational ideas for use at home.

The Week of the Young Child issues a call for action to parents, early childhood educators and allied professionals, business leaders, and the public at large to make the critical early years the best that they can be for all children.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 99-14 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, declaring April 18-24, 1999 as the Week of the Young Child.

RESOLUTION No. 99-14
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

APRIL 18-24, 1999

WHEREAS, April 18-24, 1999 has been designated by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), as the Week of the Young Child, and our community will hold commemorative events and celebrations dedicated to young children; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Week of the Young Child is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families; and support the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that the early childhood years (birth through age 8) lay the foundation for children's success in school and later life; and

WHEREAS, it is increasingly clear that an adverse early environment can compromise brain function and place children at greater risk of developing a variety of cognitive, behavioral, and physical difficulties; and

WHEREAS, the Week of the Young Child is a time to recommit ourselves to ensuring that each and every child receives the type of early environment at home, at early childhood centers, at school, and in the community, that will promote his or her early learning.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 99-14 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, proclaiming April 18-24, 1999, as the "Week of the Young Child" to increase awareness, address the educational needs and concerns of the school and community, and to participate in the observance of the "Week of the Young Child."

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent record of this Board.

Presented this 14th day of April, A.D. 1999.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Chair

ATTEST:

Secretary