

February 24, 1999

Dr. Robert B. Ingram, Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 99-12, OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ENDORSING APRIL 13, 1999, AS STOP DAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH**

During the 1994-95 school year, the United Teachers of Dade and Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) co-sponsored STOP DAY. Through this effort, our students and staff dramatically proclaimed that violence and weapons will not be tolerated in M-DCPS. Across the district, people came together to reflect upon the causes of violence and to devise ways to fight the problem.

The implementation of STOP DAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH has received wide publicity. People recognized that this was an innovative and promising approach to tackling the serious and growing problem of juvenile violence. Presentations of Miami-Dade's initiative were made to various organizations statewide by former School Board member and Stop Day founder, State Representative Dr. Frederica S. Wilson. Many groups endorsed the concept and requested that Frank T. Brogan, then Florida Commissioner of Education, pursue statewide implementation.

For the 1999 observance, Governor Jeb Bush and Commissioner of Education Tom Gallagher will administer a simultaneous televised pledge on Tuesday, April 13, 1999, at 10:30 a.m., to all students and staff of M-DCPS, as well as to every school district in Florida. A full minute of silence will follow all across Florida for schools to reflect about the implications of violence. A live ceremony will take place during the Governor's cabinet meeting in Tallahassee at the same time of the downlink being utilized in schools.

STOP DAY is envisioned as a day to empower students to band together in a unified effort to rid their campuses of violence. This will be the fifth consecutive year of STOP DAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. STOP DAY will include the pledge and a student essay contest, together with classroom discussions, periods of meditation and other activities, as deemed appropriate by each school site.

Schools will be encouraged to create special projects, events, and lessons focusing on reducing violence, improving skills for conflict resolution, and enhancing respect for peers and adults. These efforts will be geared to promote safe schools and to make students more willing participants in curbing and reporting violent acts and behavior. In addition, everyone will be asked to wear white clothing and white ribbons to emphasize their commitment to stopping violence. Everyone in the community will be encouraged to drive with their headlights on, in recognition of this effort.

When he was Commissioner of Education, Lt. Governor Brogan stated, "The primary purpose of STOP DAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH is to fill Florida's students and teachers with the confidence that, cooperatively, we can make our schools a safer and more disciplined environment. Throughout the State of Florida, in every school, students, teachers and school staff will be asked simultaneously to pledge their commitment to nonviolence. This massive statewide effort is all the result of an idea that began in the Miami-Dade County school district."

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
DR. ROBERT B. INGRAM:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 99-12, of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorsing April 13, 1999, as STOP DAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.

NJP:mh

RESOLUTION NO. 99-12  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
ENDORING APRIL 13, 1999 AS  
STOP DAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

**WHEREAS**, excellence in education is dependent on a safe, secure and peaceful school setting; and

**WHEREAS**, the safety and well-being of many students, teachers and school staff are unnecessarily jeopardized by crime and violence, such as substance abuse, gangs, bullying, poor discipline, vandalism, and absenteeism, in our schools: and

**WHEREAS**, given the opportunity, students can band together with all students in the State of Florida in unified effort to rid their campuses of school violence; and

**WHEREAS**, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, on April 13, 1999, approved Board Member Dr. Robert B. Ingram's request to implement the fifth consecutive STOP DAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH; and

**WHEREAS**, the observance of STOP DAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH will substantially promote efforts to provide all our schools with positive and safe learning climates and make students more willing participants in curbing and reporting violent acts and behavior;

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:*

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 99-12 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorsing April 13, 1999 as STOP DAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH throughout the State of Florida.

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

Presented this seventeenth day of March, 1999,

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary