

Office of School Board Members
Board Meeting of March 14, 2001

March 7, 2001

Demetrio Pérez, Jr., M.S., Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 01-11 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AT THE REQUEST OF MR. DEMETRIO PÉREZ, JR., M.S., SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, ENDORSING PANAMERICAN DAY, APRIL 14, 2001, AND PAN AMERICAN WEEK, APRIL 9-14, 2001, TO BE CELEBRATED IN ALL OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The roots of Pan American Day go back to 1826, when Simón Bolívar convened the First Congress of American States in Panama. More than 100 years later, on May 7, 1930, the Governing Board of the Pan American Union adopted a resolution urging its member nations to designate April 14th as "Pan American Day" and to fly their national flags on that date.

In this country, President Herbert Hoover acted upon that resolution several weeks later by proclaiming April 14th as "Pan American Day" and directed that the United States flag be flown on all government buildings on that day. President Hoover also invited schools, other institutions, and individuals throughout the United States to observe the occasion with ceremonies that expressed the cordiality and spirit of shared history, as well as the continental solidarity that the people of this country felt toward other people of this hemisphere, the "New World" of the Americas.

Subsequent United States presidents have supported the observance of Pan American Day and Pan American Week. In a 1990 proclamation, President George Bush noted that "the people of the Americas are united by much more than geographic proximity. From the earliest days of the inter-American system, we have been drawn together by certain ideals. Those ideals are rooted in respect for human rights, and they are clearly expressed in the Charter of the Organization of American States, which declares that the historic mission of America is to offer to mankind a land of liberty."

It is only fitting that Miami-Dade County Public Schools, with students from every nation in the hemisphere, participate in this annual observance of Pan American Day and Pan American Week.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DEMETRIO PÉREZ, JR.:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve resolution No. 01-11 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, at the request of Mr. Demetrio Pérez, Jr., M.S., School Board Member, endorsing Pan American Day, April 14, 2001, and Pan American Week, April 9-14, 2001, to be celebrated in all of Miami-Dade County's public schools.

**REPLACEMENT
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RESOLUTION NO. 01-11
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
AT THE REQUEST OF MR. DEMETRIO PÉREZ, JR., M.S., SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER,
ENDORING PAN AMERICAN DAY, APRIL 14, 2001, AND
PAN AMERICAN WEEK, APRIL 9-14, 2001,
TO BE CELEBRATED IN ALL OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, the First Congress of American States, convened by Símon Bolívar in 1826, established the Treaty of Perpetual Unity; and

WHEREAS, in 1930 the Governing Board of the Pan American Union adopted a resolution urging its member nations to designate April 14th as "Pan American Day" and to fly their national flags on that date; and

WHEREAS, in support of that resolution, President Herbert Hoover proclaimed April 14th as Pan American Day throughout the United States and directed that the flag be displayed on that date, to be observed with appropriate ceremonies expressing hemispheric solidarity; and

WHEREAS, subsequent United States presidents also have issued proclamations to this effect, and have noted our historic, cultural and economic ties to other nations of the Americas; and

WHEREAS, nowhere in this land are these ties closer than in Miami-Dade County, where so many of our populace, including students and staff of our public schools, have family origins in other nations of the Americas and where so many of our businesses are associated with those of other American nations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve resolution No. 01-11 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, at the request of Mr. Demetrio Pérez, Jr., M.S., School Board Member, endorsing Pan American Day, April 14, 2001, and Pan American Week, April 9-14, 2001, to be celebrated in all of Miami-Dade County's public schools.

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

Presented this 14th day of March, A. D. 2001

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

Attest:

Secretary