

Frank J. Bolaños, Member

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF JOSE MARTÍ, CUBAN PATRIOT AND STATESMAN

The School Board of Miami-Dade County recognizes the significance of the life and work of Jose Martí for the people of Cuba and the Americas on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of his birth. As a poet, educator and statesman, Martí embodied many of the character traits we seek to instill in our schoolchildren and strive to display ourselves.

As someone who taught and wrote in several countries of this Hemisphere, including the United States, Jose Martí understood the impact of education- our primary mission- on the future of a society. "Education is like a tree," Martí stated. "The seed is sown, and it opens out into many branches." It is a tribute to his genius, conviction and courage that his branches continue to grow with seeds that are continually sown anew with every new generation.

As a patriot, many of Martí's actions and words still ring true with significance in our current day in age. The resolve of the Cuban people for a free homeland just as the determination of all Americans for a safe world were in his mind when he wrote: "there is a time when tyranny is blinded and lets itself be overcome by the brilliance and determination of liberty".

On this special occasion, Miami-Dade County Public Schools remains committed to imparting the history and teachings of this great statesman, poet, educator and martyred revolutionary to future generations.

The School Board pays tribute to Jose Martí and encourages all students, teachers and staff to participate in a community celebration and parade in his honor on Friday, January 24th.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MR. FRANK J. BOLAÑOS:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, pays tribute to Jose Martí on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of his birth and encourages all students, teachers, parents and staff to participate in a community celebration and parade in his honor on Friday, January 24th.