

Office of School Board Members
Board Meeting of February 12, 2003

February 6, 2003

Dr. Robert B. Ingram, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 03-10 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ENDORSING FEBRUARY 2003 AS NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH TO BE CELEBRATED IN ALL OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: COMMUNITY, ADULT AND ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION Revised

The first national observance of Black history was a week-long observance initiated in February 1926 by noted Black scholar and historian Dr. Carter G. Woodson. It was expanded to a month-long observance in 1976, our country's 200th birthday. Each year a theme for the observance is selected by The Association for the Study of African-American Life and History, an organization founded by Dr. Woodson. This year's theme is "The Souls of Black Folk."

The purpose of Black History Month is to call attention to the many cultural, social, spiritual and economic contributions of African-Americans to the United States. However, in our school district, Black history is not just a subject studied and talked about in February, it is a topic of substance that is woven into all subjects throughout the school year. Therefore, given its importance in our curriculum, it is appropriate that this School Board endorse National Black History Month and encourage its celebration in all of Miami-Dade County's public schools.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 03-10 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorsing February 2003 as National Black History Month to be celebrated in all of Miami-Dade County's public schools.

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RESOLUTION NO. 03-10
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ENDORSING
FEBRUARY 2003 AS NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH TO BE CELEBRATED
IN ALL OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, the official, national, week-long celebration of African-American history initiated in February 1926 by noted Black scholar and historian Dr. Carter G. Woodson has expanded to a month-long observance during February; and

WHEREAS, this annual designation prompts our diverse community to become aware of, recognize, and celebrate the many cultural, social, spiritual and economic contributions of African-Americans to the United States as well as to promote understanding and harmony among all people; and

WHEREAS, the study of African-American history is required by Miami-Dade County Public Schools' policy as well as state legislation; and

WHEREAS, in our school district, Black history is not just a subject to be studied and talked about in February, but a topic that is woven into all subject areas throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this policy, Miami-Dade County Public Schools provides its students with both programs and services that emphasize ethnic pride, cultural sensitivity, positive intergroup relations, and cross-cultural communications as well as the contributions of African-Americans to the United States

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No.03-10 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorsing February as National Black History Month 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 twelfth day of February, A. D. 2003

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary