

August 8, 2003

Mr. Frank J. Cobo, Member

**SUBJECT: THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO CONSIDER
NAMING A SCHOOL FACILITY IN HONOR OF CELIA CRUZ IN
ACCORDANCE WITH SCHOOL BOARD RULE 6GX13- 7E-1.02**

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

On Wednesday, July 16, 2003, Celia Cruz, the grand dame of Cuban music, died. Her unmistakable voice resonated with the sounds of the rhythm-rich island. Celia Cruz was a living legend, an international star who captured the spotlight for six decades through changing epochs, vacillating musical trends, and the reinvention of "*el son*".

Celia Cruz became a symbol of honesty and tolerance to people from Cuba to Japan, from Finland to Puerto Rico. Her audience was a melting pot of cultures all with the same desire to laugh, sing, dance, and be free. Teaching was her first vocation, and the world was her classroom.

Naming a school facility for Celia Cruz would honor an individual of international prominence who made significant contributions to our community.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to consider naming a school facility in honor of Celia Cruz in accordance with School Board Rule 6GX13- 7E-1.02

FJC:bz