

Dr. Robert B. Ingram, Member

**SUBJECT:            AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO DIRECT STAFF TO ENHANCE THE CURRENT LANGUAGE ARTS/READING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMPONENTS TO INCLUDE INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES FOCUSED ON VOCABULARY ACQUISITION AND USE OF STANDARD ENGLISH TO BE IMPLEMENTED BEGINNING WITH THE 2004-2005 SCHOOL YEAR.**

**COMMITTEE:        EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS**

Culture has a direct impact on how students perceive life and their relationship to the world. Many students in Miami-Dade County utilize cultural nuances or idioms (oral and written) of nonstandard English in their everyday lives and transfer this information to their academic environments and test taking skills.

Students who employ cultural nuances or idioms in their daily lives should be provided experiences that develop standard English vocabulary use within the context of the instructional day. Teachers need to embed vocabulary and language strategies throughout the curriculum that will support students in acquiring the necessary standard English skills and knowledge that will facilitate their successful movement from grade to grade and later allow them to move into higher education or careers in the workplace.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to enhance the current Language Arts/Reading professional development components to include instructional strategies focused on vocabulary acquisition and use of standard English to be implemented beginning with the 2004-2005 school year.

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