

Dr. Robert B. Ingram, Member

**SUBJECT:            AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO DESIGN A PROGRAM THAT FOCUSES ON STUDENTS WITH COGNITIVE LANGUAGE DEFICIENCIES TO PROVIDE STRATEGIES FOR DEVELOPING SKILLS NEEDED IN READING AND UNDERSTANDING STANDARD AMERICAN ENGLISH IN ORDER TO COMPETE IN A GLOBAL WORLD**

**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 Standard American English in their everyday lives and transfer this usage to their academic environments and test taking skills.

Students who employ cultural nuances or idioms in their everyday lives should be identified to assess whether such cultural usage creates cognitive language deficiencies that impede their progress in school.

Identified students will need strategies to assist them in developing skills in reading and understanding Standard American English in order to move from grade to grade and later 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 design a program that focuses on students with cognitive language deficiencies prior to the end of the 2003-04 school year to be implemented at the beginning of the 2004-05 school year.