

Mr. Frank J. Cobo, Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 04-05 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ENDORSING MAY 3-7, 2004, AS "HIV/AIDS AWARENESS WEEK" IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENCOURAGE CONTINUED DISTRICT AND SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

Authorization is sought for approval of Resolution 04-05, for district support of HIV/AIDS Awareness Week, reemphasizing the School Board's commitment to the mission and objectives of HIV/AIDS awareness. The intent of HIV/AIDS Awareness Week is to increase the level of consciousness and to address the educational needs and concerns of the community.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools has participated in HIV/AIDS Awareness Week through the initiation and promotion of positive, consciousness-raising activities. These activities include the use of the curriculum, "AIDS: Get the Facts!", distribution of informative literature, school announcements, speakers, videos, and contests. Further, the HIV/AIDS education district staff has sought the encouragement of local businesses and agencies for the approval of May 3-7, 2004, as AIDS Awareness Week.

Staff involved in HIV/AIDS education programs, both at the district and school level, may also contact various businesses and organizations from the HIV/AIDS Education Programs' approved speakers list for their collaboration. Teacher and student activities for HIV/AIDS Awareness Week may include, but are not limited to:

- researching the economic, social and /or political impact of the HIV virus;
- displaying relevant materials in schools and offices;
- creating prevention brochures;
- graphing global HIV and AIDS statistics;

- implementing lessons from the "AIDS: Get The Facts!" Curriculum;
- researching current medications;
- developing an AIDS Memorial Quilt;
- holding a poster, essay, or rap contest with awareness messages;
- scheduling speakers from the Approved Speakers Bureau to discuss the effects of HIV/AIDS on society;
- studying the cycle of a retro-virus;
- encouraging older students to talk with younger students about the importance of abstinence and universal precautions;
- wearing red ribbons during HIV/AIDS Awareness Week; and
- encouraging Dade Partners to participate with schools in their projects .

The Division of Life Skills and Special Projects' HIV/AIDS Program will work individually, as requested, with schools to compose creative activities.

No local funds are required.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. approve Resolution 04-05 endorsing May 3-7, 2004, as HIV/AIDS Awareness Week in Miami-Dade County Public Schools; and
2. authorize the Superintendent to encourage continued district and school participation.

No local funds are required.

FC/LG:sc

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-05
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
PROCLAIMING HIV/AIDS AWARENESS WEEK
May 3, 2004 – May 7, 2004**

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has estimated 40 million people to be living with HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, every minute, five young people around the globe are infected with HIV; and

WHEREAS, and estimated 800,000 to 900,000 Americans are currently HIV positive and more than 774,467 individuals have been diagnosed with AIDS in the United States since 1981; and

WHEREAS, more than 448,060 deaths in the United States have been caused by AIDS since 1981; and

WHEREAS, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports 774,467 AIDS cases in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Florida ranks third among states in the nation with reported cases of AIDS; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 4 new HIV infections in America occurs in people between the ages of 13-22;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 04-05 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, proclaiming May 3-7, 2004, as HIV/AIDS Awareness Week to increase awareness and understanding of HIV/AIDS as a local challenge, to promote HIV/AIDS prevention activities and programs, and to join the global effort to prevent the further spread of HIV/AIDS.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent record of this Board.

Presented this fourteenth day of April, A.D. 2004

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary