

Rudolph F. Crew, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ENDORSEMENT OF DECEMBER 6-10, 2004, AS
 NATIONAL INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS WEEK IN MIAMI-DADE
 COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

Authorization is sought for endorsement of December 6-10, 2004, as National Inclusive Schools Week (NISW). This endorsement will emphasize the district's commitment to increasing the development and implementation of inclusive educational practices. Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) is a district partner with the National Institute for Urban School Improvement's (NIUSI), Inclusive Schooling Initiative, which sponsors NISW. This district has participated in NISW since its inception in December 2001.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools has participated in NISW through the promotion of activities aimed at celebrating the diverse abilities of all members of our school community, and the progress that has been made in providing equal educational opportunities for all learners, particularly those with disabilities. The activities promoted during the 2004 NISW's theme of Working Together will include activities developed by the NIUSI and include celebration and awareness activities, promoting diversity through recommended literature, share fairs, videos, school announcements, speakers, contests, on-line forums for parents and teachers, and publications.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse December 6-10, 2004, as National Inclusive Schools Week in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

RKF/BB:co

B-27