

April 6, 2005

Dr. Robert B. Ingram, Vice-Chairman

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 05-06 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ENDORSING APRIL 25-29, 2005, AS HIV/AIDS AWARENESS WEEK IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENCOURAGE CONTINUED DISTRICT AND SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Authorization is sought for approval of Resolution 05-06 for District support of HIV/AIDS Awareness Week, re-emphasizing 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!*, the distribution of informative literature, and the promotion of school announcements, speakers, videos, and contests. Furthermore, the HIV/AIDS education District staff has sought the support of local businesses and agencies in promoting April 25 -29, 2005, as AIDS Awareness Week.

Staff involved in HIV/AIDS education programs, at both the district and school level, may also contact various businesses and organizations from the HIV/AIDS Education Program's list of approved speakers 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;

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- 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 with schools individually, upon request, to create additional educational activities.

This item does not appear in the regularly scheduled agenda. There is good cause to vary from the established agenda to increase the level of consciousness and to address the educational needs and concerns of the community by designating April 25-29, 2005, as HIV/AIDS AWARENESS WEEK in Miami-Dade County Publics Schools.

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

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

1. approve Resolution 05-06 endorsing April 25-29, 2005, as HIV/AIDS Awareness Week in Miami-Dade County Public Schools; and
2. authorize the Superintendent to encourage continued District and school participation.

**RESOLUTION NO. 05-06
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
PROCLAIMING HIV/AIDS AWARENESS WEEK
APRIL 25 - 29, 2005**

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has estimated 40 million people now live with HIV/AIDS; and

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

WHEREAS, an 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 current AIDS cases in the United States; and

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

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

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County ranks first in the state and second in the nation number of AIDS cases.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 05-06 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, proclaiming April 25 - 29, 2005, as HIV/AIDS Awareness Week in order 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 thirteenth day of April, A.D. 2005

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary

