

Ms. Evelyn Langlieb Greer, Board Member

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE  
                          COUNTY, FLORIDA, OBSERVE MAY, 2005 AS ABSTINENCE  
                          MONTH**

**COMMITTEE:       INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Currently, the Abstinence Between Strong Teens, Inc. (ABST) program serves only 34 schools in educating students about abstinence awareness. To create further outreach for abstinence education, a request has been received to endorse the ABST program as an integral component of the curriculum of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Teenage Parent Program. Cope Center North and Dorothy M. Wallace Cope Center South currently provide excellent programs for teenage mothers, but the majority of teenage parents who mainly reside within the zone centers of the school system do not receive the same resources that the Cope Centers provide.

It is hoped that more schools will be allowed to participate in this program and learn about this very important abstinence program. It is vital that not only current or expectant young mothers be provided parenting education, but that programs be expanded to provide important lessons in the prevention of teenage pregnancy and the personal choices that will affect them all their lives. Therefore, it is appropriate that this School Board observe May, 2005 as Abstinence Month.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**EVELYN LANGLIEB GREER:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida observe May, 2005 as Abstinence Month.