

Dr. Robert B. Ingram, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 05-22 RECOGNIZING THE YOUTH GROUP "SPEAKING HANDS," WHICH IS CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO OUR COMMUNITY

COMMITTEE: SCHOOL SUPPORT ACCOUNTABILITY

"Speaking Hands" is a dramatic group of young people aged 6 years to 18 years old, who use American Sign Language to interpret inspirational music. The children perform specially choreographed musical presentations through sign language and have performed across the country with celebrities and at events as big as the Super Bowl. The organization currently is celebrating its 10th anniversary.

"Speaking Hands" is involved in other community efforts such as, after-school tutoring, providing food and clothing for the needy and making referrals to other agencies that can lend a helping hand.

These children have been positive role models for their peers and have uplifted the hearts of both the deaf and hearing community alike. "Speaking Hands" believes in educating the community of the needs that exist in this "silent community" and then working to bring both communities together.

Through their ministry, the group has learned that every person has been given the gift of a unique self, and the purpose of life is to share the very best of that gift with the world. It is youth helping youth.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida approve Resolution No. 05-22 recognizing the youth group "Speaking Hands," which is celebrating 10 years of commitment to our community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 05-22
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING THE YOUTH GROUP "SPEAKING HANDS," WHICH IS CELEBRATING
10 YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO OUR COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, "Speaking Hands" is a dramatic group of young people aged 6 years to 18 years old, who use American Sign Language to interpret inspirational music and have performed specially choreographed musical presentations across the country with celebrities and at events as big as the Super Bowl; and

WHEREAS, "Speaking Hands" also believes in educating the community of the needs that exist in this "silent community" and has been involved in efforts such as, after-school tutoring, providing food and clothing for the needy and making referrals to other agencies that can lend a helping hand; and

WHEREAS, the group has learned that every person has been given the gift of a unique self, and the purpose of life is to share the very best of that gift with the world. It is youth helping youth;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve resolution No. 05-22 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the youth group "Speaking Hands," which is celebrating 10 years of commitment to our community.

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

Presented this eighteenth day of May, A.D. 2005

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY