

Ms. Evelyn Langlieb Greer, Member

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST FOR APPROVAL RECOGNIZING APRIL 23  
THROUGH APRIL 30, 2006 AS DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF  
THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST TO BE OBSERVED IN ALL  
OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**COMMITTEE:       INSTRUCTIONAL       EXCELLENCE       AND       COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

The deliberate and systemic extermination by Germany and other European countries during World War II of six million people, from babies to the frail elderly, solely because they were born Jewish and the murder of millions of other people simply because they were considered "unworthy" to live is one of the most horrifying events in human history. It is an event as to which civilized people around the world say "Never Again."

Each year, the Miami-Dade County Public Schools recognize and study the Holocaust in order to understand how people justify committing "crimes against humanity". The purpose of such study is to teach children tolerance so that such hate crimes are not repeated against any group. This year's remembrance will mark the 63<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising, a brave but futile act of resistance that epitomizes the profoundly human instinct to resist tyranny against all odds. The Warsaw Ghetto uprising, in which the 30,000 surviving Jews in the capital city of Poland, armed only with glass bottles full of gasoline and rocks, resisted the force of the German Army death machine for weeks, until the Germans burned every building and shot dead every man, woman and child. The theme of this year's observance, "For Your Freedom and Ours", was lifted directly from history when on April 23, 1943, the Jewish Fighting Organization in Warsaw, told the world about the concentration camps and characterized the uprising as "a battle being waged for your freedom as well as ours."

During this year's observance, individual and communal acts of heroism and resistance to evil during the Holocaust serve as powerful examples of how our nation and its citizens can--and must--respond to acts of hatred and inhumanity.

In 1963, the museum of the Holocaust in Israel, Yad Vashem, began a worldwide project to recognize non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust as the Righteous Among the Nations. The Righteous program and the trees planted on the Avenue of the Righteous Among the Nations in Israel has honored more than 21,000 non-Jews who stood up to evil even when they themselves were not threatened.

In the challenging times of today's world, this remembrance is more important than ever.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**  
**Ms. Evelyn Langlieb Greer**

That the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve the recognition of April 23 through April 30, 2006 as Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to be observed in all of Miami-Dade County's public schools.