

Dr. Marta Pérez, Member

SUBJECT: THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA JOIN THE AMERICAN HISPANIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION OF DADE (AHEAD) IN PROMOTING FERIA OLÉ AND DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENCOURAGE ALL MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO PARTICIPATE IN FERIA OLÉ ON SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2006

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Feria OLÉ (OLÉ is the acronym for "*Orgullosos de Leer en Español*" which in English means "*Proud to Read in Spanish.*") is an annual literacy event presented by AHEAD, The American Hispanic Educators of Association of Dade and is supported by the National Association of Cuban American Educators and La Sociedad Cultural Santa Cecilia. The event consists of a series of competitions for students from Pre-K to 6th grade. The competitions aim at increasing and enriching Spanish language skills. Feria OLÉ provides opportunities for positive parental involvement, it opens the school doors to non English-speaking parents who will very likely see with less fear the possibility of learning English as a second language, and it invites the community to offer volunteer services while encouraging local businesses to contribute as sponsors.

The School Board of Miami-Dade County has provided strong support to Feria OLÉ since its inception in 1993 through its continued commitment to promoting literacy skills in Spanish. Feria OLÉ has enjoyed strong participation from students at the elementary level, however, middle school and high school student participation has dwindled over the past few years resulting in the cancellation of the 7th-12th grade competition. Renewed support from staff of the Office of Public Relations, the Division of Bilingual Education and World Languages may assist in the promotion of this important event.

Feria OLÉ will take place on Saturday, April 22, 2006 at Emerson Elementary, 8001 SW 36 Street, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTA PÉREZ:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida join the American Hispanic Educators Association of Dade (AHEAD) in promoting Feria OLÉ and direct the Superintendent to encourage all Miami-Dade County Public Schools to participate in Feria OLÉ on April 22, 2006