

Agustin J. Barrera, Chairman

**SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE, COUNTY FLORIDA, DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENSURE THAT THE REVISIONS TO THE SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM CONTINUE TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO GAIN AN APPRECIATION OF OTHER CULTURES AND SHOW A HEIGHTENED SENSITIVITY TO THE CULTURAL, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMIC SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES THAT EXIST AMONG ALL NATIONS OF THE WORLD.**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The United States is composed of diverse groups of people, representing virtually every country in the world. Miami Dade County is a multicultural environment that is a microcosm of our nation's population, affording its residents a unique insight into a multitude of cultures. In Miami-Dade County Public Schools, students are encouraged to attain cultural awareness and a global perspective through the examination of diverse families, communities, and cultures.

Cultural awareness begins with an awareness of self and an examination of other cultures found in the community. Comparing the lifestyles, customs, and traditions of other cultural groups found in their own communities and schools, students begin to develop an appreciation for the many different cultures that are found in the local community and around the world. This appreciation includes the recognition that Miami-Dade County contains a diversity of people who have contributed to its cultural heritage.

The District's Social Studies Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) currently provides students with opportunities to develop an appreciation of other nations and cultures beginning in the early grades. The CBC will soon undergo revisions. During the revision process for the Social Studies CBC, care should be taken to ensure that the revised curriculum will continue to contain an objective study of cultures represented in the communities of Miami-Dade County, a heightened sensitivity to the struggles encountered by immigrants in their homelands, and a recognition of the contributions they have made to the local community and the United States.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**CHAIRMAN AGUSTIN J. BARRERA:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to ensure that the revisions to the Social Studies curriculum continue to provide opportunities for students to gain an appreciation of other cultures and show a heightened sensitivity to the cultural, political, and economic similarities and differences that exist among all nations of the world.