

Agustin J. Barrera, Chairman

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 06-32 OF THE
 SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
 PROCLAIMING MAY 10, 2006, AS INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
 PROGRAM DAY IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The prestigious K-12 International Studies (IS) program is the result of the collaborative efforts between Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) and the education ministries of France, Germany, Italy, and Spain. It is the only program of its kind in the United States. The program was established between 1986 and 1988 at Sunset Elementary, Coral Way K-8 Center, North-Dade Center for Modern Languages, and George W. Carver Middle School. It has since gradually expanded to include the following schools: George W. Carver Elementary, Ada Merritt K-8 Center, and Ponce de Leon Middle. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued and proposals are now under consideration to build a high school that will house the IS program scheduled to open in the fall of 2008.

The IS program provides students with the opportunity to not only become literate in English and another language, but also to pursue an academic curriculum with an international focus that addresses rigorous standards of both the United States and European Union educational systems. In addition to the study of standard subject areas in English, students receive up to three hours of instruction in and through the language of choice, French, German, Italian, or Spanish. At the secondary level students pursue studies in literature, mathematics, history, and geography in the target language and are encouraged to work at the highest levels in Honors and Advanced Placement courses in English. Students graduating from the program may receive dual accreditation from the foreign government of the target language and the state of Florida.

As a result of the Memoranda of Understanding with these four countries M-DCPS has received resources at no cost to the District, including teachers from each of these countries, and instructional materials, as well as technical and cultural assistance to the participating schools.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

CHAIRMAN AGUSTIN J. BARRERA: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No.06-32 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, proclaiming May 10, 2006, as International Studies Program Day in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

**RESOLUTION NO. 06-32
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROCLAIMING MAY 10, 2006 AS INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM DAY
IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, the International Studies program promotes relations by fostering better understanding and solidarity between the citizens of Miami-Dade County and the Republic of France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Republic of Italy, and the Kingdom of Spain.

WHEREAS, the International Studies program promotes knowledge and appreciation of other languages and cultures, empowering students with cross cultural skills in an international context.

WHEREAS, the International Studies program has demonstrated success as a high academic standards program and serves as a national model of excellence in education.

WHEREAS, the International Studies program offers a bilingual and bicultural education which prepares students for future success in personal, academic, and professional fields.

WHEREAS, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizes the governments of France, Germany, Italy, and Spain for their support of the program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County Public, Florida, approve Resolution No. 06-32 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County Public, Florida, proclaiming May 10, 2006, as International Studies Program Day in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

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

Presented this tenth day of May, 2006

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary