

Alberto M. Carvalho, Associate Superintendent  
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants, Marketing, and Community Services

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 07-51 OF THE  
                          SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
                          ENDORING OCTOBER 18, 2007, AS "LIGHTS ON  
                          AFTERSCHOOL!" AND NOVEMBER 13, 2007, AS "NATIONAL  
                          COMMUNITY EDUCATION DAY"**

**COMMITTEE:       INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT  
STRATEGIC PLAN:       EDUCATE AND ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS ON DISTRICT  
                                  INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE  
                                  MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS**

The Miami-Dade Coalition for Community Education requests the School Board's endorsement to designate October 18, 2007, as "Lights On Afterschool!" and November 13, 2007, as "National Community Education Day". The purpose is to educate the community about the importance of quality afterschool programs in fostering successful adults, and to underscore that learning is lifelong. It is also an opportunity to renew the school system's dedication to supporting Miami-Dade County Public Schools as community learning centers.

The school has long been considered the "heart" of the community, with each as valuable and diverse as the population it serves. The needs of each community are addressed when each school dedicates its facilities to extend beyond the normal workday and available on weekends and holidays. This will impact the quality of life for all of the people, from preschoolers to senior citizens.

The promotion of community education supports No Child Left Behind, Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test success, family literacy, and the District's goal of parental/family involvement, including participation in The Parent Academy. Community education engages family and community members to become partners in raising and maintaining high achievement, and helps to develop our students so they are able to compete in a global economy. Community education is integral to the success of Zone related initiatives, and encourages private and philanthropic collaboration. By endorsing this resolution, the Board will continue to exemplify the leadership in community education for which Miami-Dade County is noted, and make the concept of lifelong learning a reality not only locally, but a national model.

**C-31**

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**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution 07-51 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorsing October 18, 2007, as "Lights On Afterschool!" and November 13, 2007, as "National Community Education Day" to be celebrated in all of Miami-Dade County's public schools.

AMC/LDB

RESOLUTION NO. 07-51  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
ENDORING OCTOBER 18, 2007, AS "LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL!"  
AND NOVEMBER 13, 2007, AS "NATIONAL COMMUNITY EDUCATION DAY"  
TO BE CELEBRATED  
IN ALL OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Miami-Dade County stand firmly committed to quality community school and afterschool programs because they:

- provide a safe, friendly learning environment for our children that boosts their academic achievement,
- support working families by ensuring that their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends,
- build stronger communities by providing necessary services, promoting lifelong learning and skill development, partnering with business, agencies and civic organizations, and encouraging family involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, lifelong learning for all community members, regardless of age, is a premise of community education; and

**WHEREAS**, the community school - open nights, weekends and during the summer - is a focal point of community services, activities, and involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, the role of quality afterschool programming is integral to the success of a child from youth through adulthood; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Miami-Dade County are committed to improving the quality of life by meeting the educational, health, social, cultural, and recreational needs of all members of our diverse community; and

**WHEREAS**, the dual celebration of "Lights On Afterschool!" and "National Community Education Day" promotes the critical importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, their families, and their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, many afterschool and community school programs across the country are facing funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 07-51 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorsing October 18, 2007, as "Lights On Afterschool!" and November 13, 2007, as "National Community Education Day", and it commits our community to engage in innovative afterschool and community school programs that ensure the lights stay on and doors stay open after school. We call on all our citizens to observe this dual celebration by supporting the creation or expansion of community and afterschool programs, where all members of the community can gather to learn, have fun, become involved, and receive services. A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this  
5th day of September, A.D. 2007

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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Chair

ATTEST:

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Secretary