

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 08-15 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ENDORSING MARCH 2008 AS "ARTS IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH," TO BE CELEBRATED IN ALL MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND AUTHORIZING ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS TO FOSTER RELATED ACTIVITIES

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN ARTS AND ELECTIVE OFFERINGS

March has been designated by the National Board of Education in partnership with the National Arts Education Professional Organization as the month to observe nationally the benefits of arts and arts education. Schools and communities throughout the country highlight, endorse and support arts programs, their importance, and their many advantages. On the value of the arts, American-born author Henry James once said that "It is art that makes life, makes interest, makes importance and I know of no substitute whatever for the force and beauty of its process." The arts teach children to make good judgments about qualitative relationships, how problems can have more than one solution and how to see and interpret the world in many different ways.

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 supports the power of arts education and recognizes its significance and necessity for all children. Approval of this resolution will prompt our diverse community to become aware of, recognize, and celebrate the many historical, cultural, social, and economic benefits that the arts and arts education provide to Miami-Dade County, the State of Florida and the nation.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

VICE CHAIR PERLA TABARES HANTMAN: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 08-15 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorsing March 2008 as "Arts in Our Schools Month," to be celebrated in all Miami-Dade County Public Schools, and authorizing administrative actions to foster related activities.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-15 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ENDORSING MARCH 2008 AS "ARTS IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH," TO BE CELEBRATED IN ALL MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND AUTHORIZING ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS TO FOSTER RELATED ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools supports arts education and seeks to ensure that all students have the opportunity to develop their artistic and creative talents, skills, and abilities in a challenging and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, the National Board of Education, in partnership with the National Arts Education Professional Organization, has designated March as the month for national observance of the benefits of the arts and arts education in our schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, art education helps children develop literacy skills such as reading, writing, speaking, and listening and also encourages problem solving skills, enabling students to think creatively; and

WHEREAS, the arts serve as a critical component to a complete, well-rounded education and are proven to increase student academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, the arts and arts education provide many historical, cultural, social, and economic benefits to our students and to our diverse community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida approve Resolution No. 08-15, endorsing March 2008 as "Arts in Our Schools Month," to be celebrated in all Miami-Dade County Public Schools, and authorizing administrative actions to foster related activities.

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

Presented this thirteenth day of February, A.D. 2008

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY