

Perla Tabares Hantman, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 08-26 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROCLAIMING APRIL 22, 2008, AS EARTH DAY IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: INCREASE STUDENT EXPOSURE AND UNDERSTANDING OF GLOBAL ISSUES

In 1970, twenty million people across our nation celebrated the first Earth Day. This was the year President Richard Nixon created the Environmental Protection Agency with the mission of protecting the environment and public health. For 38 years government agencies and private industries have worked together on energy conservation projects and have conducted extensive research on alternative energy sources. An awareness of the need to respect and protect our natural environment has also been promoted across America.

Since the first Earth Day was celebrated, the efforts of dedicated elected officials and involved citizens have produced the passing of legislation such as the Clean Air Act, Toxic Substances Control Act and Clear Skies regulations which have made the world we live in a much healthier place for us and our children. In 1972 only 36 percent of our nation's assessed waters were safe for uses such as fishing and swimming. Today, close to 60 percent are safe for such use.

By proclaiming April 22, 2008, as Earth Day in all Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the message will go out to all students, employees and community members, that citizens of all ages in every community, including schools, businesses and local governments, must work together to reduce and better manage our waste, prevent pollution and conserve our natural resources. During Earth Day celebrations and earth science themed activities, teachers and parents are encouraged to discuss with their students the importance of this festivity. Although Earth Day is to be celebrated only one day of the year, our children must learn that steps to preserve our natural resources must be taken every day of the year.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

VICE CHAIR PERLA TABARES HANTMAN: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 08-26 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, proclaiming April 22, 2008, as Earth Day in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

**RESOLUTION NO. 08-26
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
PROCLAIMING APRIL 22, 2008, AS EARTH DAY IN
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, in 1970, twenty million people across our nation celebrated the first Earth Day; and

WHEREAS, that same year President Richard Nixon created the Environmental Protection Agency with the mission of protecting the environment and public health; and

WHEREAS, for 38 years government agencies and private industries have worked together on energy conservation projects and have conducted extensive research on alternative energy sources; and

WHEREAS, during Earth Day celebrations and earth science themed activities, teachers and parents are encouraged to discuss with their students the importance of this festivity; and

WHEREAS, by proclaiming April 22, 2008, as Earth Day in all Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the message will go out to schools, businesses and local governments that citizens of all ages must work together to reduce and better manage our waste, prevent pollution and conserve our natural resources.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 08-26 proclaiming April 22, 2008, as Earth Day in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Presented this twelfth day of March, A.D. 2008

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY