

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 01-18 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ENDORSING MAY 2001 AS TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH TO BE OBSERVED IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) is committed to decreasing school dropout rates by helping students achieve academic success, addressing biopsychosocial needs, building strong partnerships between the home and the school, and providing students with information to enhance their post-secondary achievement. Therefore, it is appropriate that M-DCPS join the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy and The National Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Prevention in observing Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

The theme for the district-approved Abstinence Education Program is: **Education Now and Babies Later**. The local theme for Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month is: **"Abstinence: A Pathway to Success."** It is hoped that as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month is observed throughout the nation and in M-DCPS in particular, people will be reminded that the best interventions to prevent teen pregnancy are positive adult influences, high expectations for individual student achievement, academic and social success, and hope for the future.

The activities planned for the month will be a collaborative effort of the Division of Life Skills and Special Projects, Office of Alternative Education and Dropout Prevention Programs, and Federal Programs and Grants Administration. Principals will be informed of the designated activities by e-mail and by interschool mail and will be provided with a list of activities for use in promoting Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 01-18 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorsing May 2001 as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month, to be observed in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

NJP:pr

**RESOLUTION NO. 01-18
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
ENDORING MAY 2001
AS TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH**

WHEREAS, In 1999, there were 3,561 births to teens ages 10 - 19 in Miami-Dade County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, In 1999, there were 761 repeat births to teens ages 15-19 in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, schools are the backbone of our community, where students receive necessary tools for learning and personal growth that are required to maintain values of freedom, civility, equality and self sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, by equipping all students with practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, education gives them hope for and access to a productive future; and

WHEREAS, the schools in our community are the links that bring together adults, children, educators, volunteers, business leaders, and elected officials to achieve common goals including reducing dropout rates, and providing education and opportunity for all; and

WHEREAS, everyone involved in education, be they custodians, teachers, bus drivers, librarians, parents, or community volunteers can be positive influences on the students they encounter; and

WHEREAS, our schools, links in the chain of life, provide crucial information to students regarding responsible decision making to support and enhance the health and future of our nation; and

WHEREAS, the theme for Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month is "Abstinence: A Pathway to Success."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 01-18 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorsing May 2001 as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month to be observed in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Presented this eighteenth day, of April, A.D. 2001

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary