

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 01-36 OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA ENDORSING
HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH, OCTOBER 2001**

Before the United States existed, Hispanics were making their mark on this continent. Over several centuries, Hispanics have continued their contributions to our nation's development. Millions of Hispanics have come to the United States in search of freedom and prosperity. Their commitment to family and community, a strong work ethic, and a belief in the American dream has contributed much to our society and its economic growth.

Since 1990, the Hispanic population in the United States has increased by more than 50 percent. In Census 2000, of the 281.4 million United States' residents counted, 35.3 million were Hispanic. It is estimated that by the year 2050, 23 percent of our population will be of Hispanic origin. Today, Hispanics are no longer concentrated on our borders and in our urban centers, but spread across the nation, especially in the West and South. The State of Florida is one of seven states with a population of 1.0 million or more Hispanics. Moreover, Hispanics continue to lead the immigration to this country. Florida is one of four states with the greatest variety of Hispanic origin groups, including two-thirds of the Cuban population in Florida. The largest Central and South American populations in the United States live in Miami.

The historic importance and continued growth of the Hispanic population in the state and nation, led the Florida Legislature, in 1998, to amend Section 233.061, Florida Statutes, to require instruction in "Hispanic contributions to the United States." Accordingly, the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Pupil Progression Plan requires the study of Hispanic contributions to the United States through the required K - 12 social studies instructional program. The District developed instructional materials for teachers entitled, *Legado Hispanic American Resource Guide* and *Tapestry of Many Voices*, a multimedia bibliography, to support this requirement.

Given the historic importance and continued growth in influence of Hispanics in this country, it is only fitting that the Miami-Dade County School Board approve Resolution No. 01-36 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorsing Hispanic Heritage Month, October 2001.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 01-36 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida endorsing Hispanic Heritage Month, October 2001.

**RESOLUTION NO. 01-36 OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
ENDORING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH, OCTOBER 2001**

WHEREAS, Hispanics were making their mark upon this continent before the United States existed; and

WHEREAS, over the centuries, Hispanics have continued their contributions to our nation's economic and social development; and

WHEREAS, today Hispanics are found in every corner of the nation, and their population has increased by more than 50 percent since 1990; and

WHEREAS, the study of Hispanic contributions to the United States is a State and District requirement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 01-36, of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorsing Hispanic Heritage Month, October 2001.

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

Presented this twelfth day of September, A.D. 2001

CHAIR

Attest:
