

Ms. Ana Rivas Logan, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 09-08 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING JANUARY 28, 2009 AS "EL DIA DE JOSÉ MARTÍ" FOR ALL HIS CONTRIBUTIONS

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN: INCREASE STUDENT EXPOSURE AND UNDERSTANDING OF GLOBAL ISSUES AND ECONOMY

José Martí, a prolific writer, journalist, poet, and Cuban patriot is an internationally known figure whose many writings were dedicated to the cause of equality and freedom throughout the world. He was a tireless crusader on behalf of freedom for Cuba from Spanish colonial rule. A world traveler, Martí always raised his voice whenever and wherever he found injustice and inequality.

José Martí's literary works provided an inspiration to many around the world who like him, found colonialism and imperialism as suppressing freedom and the right of self-determination. During his struggle for Cuba's independence Martí, who was not a soldier, took part in a bloody battle and died at the hands of his country's oppressors. He was 42 years old. Although Martí did not have the opportunity to see his country gain freedom, his words and ideals had a profound impact in the history of Cuba and other Latin American countries. Ratification of this resolution, to recognize January 28, 2009, as "El Día de José Martí" will prompt the interest, of not only a new generation of Cuban-Americans, but also, of all students in this diverse community, recognizing Martí's passion for freedom and justice for all people.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

ANA RIVAS LOGAN: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-08 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing January 14, 2009, as "El Día de José Martí" for all his contributions.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-08
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING JANUARY
28, 2009, AS "EL DÍA DE JOSÉ MARTÍ" FOR ALL HIS CONTRIBUTIONS

WHEREAS, January 28th marks the 154th birthday of Cuba's apostle, José Martí, prolific writer, newspaperman, poet, and recognized leader of the fight for Cuba's independence from Spain; and

WHEREAS, Martí's entire life, which ended abruptly in a battlefield 42 years after his birth, was dedicated to the cause of freedom and equality in Cuba and throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, his words have inspired countless generations of Cubans and Latin Americans to rise in protest whenever injustice and oppression are evident; and

WHEREAS, Martí's literary works are internationally known for their clarity and relevance as they can be applied to any society where privilege trumps equality and where there is no respect to individual rights; and

WHEREAS, our school district is committed to the promotion of freedom, equality, and the rule of representative democracy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County recognizes January 28, 2009, as "El Día de José Martí" for all his contributions.

Presented this fourteenth day of January, A.D. 2009

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY