

Dr. Wilbert "Tee" Holloway, Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 09-03 ENDORSING FEBRUARY 2009 AS NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH TO BE CELEBRATED IN ALL OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

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

The first national observance of Black history was initiated by American historian Dr. Carter G. Woodson who established Black History Week in February 1926 to commemorate and celebrate the contributions to our nation made by African Americans. In 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, the week was expanded to Black History Month. The Association for the Study of African American Life and History, founded by Dr. Woodson, selects a theme each year for the observance of Black History Month. This year's national theme is "Carter G. Woodson and the Origins of Multiculturalism."

The purpose of Black History Month is to call attention to the many educational, cultural, social, spiritual and economic contributions of African Americans to the United States. Black history is studied and woven into all subjects throughout the year in Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS). M-DCPS is committed to equity in education for all students and to providing a learning environment that is reflective of the cultures, traditions, customs and historic legacies that comprise the District's population. Given the importance of the instruction of Black history and multiculturalism in our curriculum, it is appropriate that the School Board endorse National Black History Month and encourage its celebration in all of Miami-Dade County's public schools.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**DR. WILBERT "TEE" HOLLOWAY:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-03 endorsing February 2009 as National Black History Month to be celebrated in all of Miami-Dade County's public schools.

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-03 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,  
FLORIDA ENDORSING FEBRUARY 2009 AS NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY  
MONTH TO BE CELEBRATED IN ALL OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Carter G. Woodson established Black History Week in February 1926, which has since expanded to a month-long observance, to commemorate and celebrate the contributions to our nation made by African Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of Black History Month is to call attention to the many educational, cultural, social, spiritual and economic contributions of African Americans to the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Association for the Study of African American Life and History selected "Carter G. Woodson and the Origins of Multiculturalism" as this year's national theme; and

**WHEREAS**, African American history is studied and woven into all subjects throughout the year in Miami-Dade County Public Schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County Public Schools is committed to equity in education for all students and to providing a learning environment that is reflective of the cultures, traditions, customs and historic legacies that comprise the District's population;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-03 endorsing February 2009 as National Black History Month to be celebrated in all of Miami-Dade County's public schools.

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

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

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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SECRETARY