

Dr. Wilbert "Tee" Holloway, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 09-57 OF
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING MAY 2009 AS HAITIAN
HERITAGE MONTH AND AUTHORIZING
ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS TO FOSTER RELATED
ACTIVITIES**

COMMITTEE: SCHOOL SUPPORT ACCOUNTABILITY

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

Throughout the history of Haiti, May has been a month for commemorating Haitian culture, with Haitians across the globe celebrating their achievements and contributions. Among the dates in May that are important in Haitian history is May 18, 1803, when the official blue and red Haitian flag was created by Haitian leaders at the end of the Congress of Arcahaie. Haitian Heritage Month provides our diverse community an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the many historic, cultural, social, and economic contributions of Haitians to the United States and to the world. The observance will allow students, their families, and the community to demonstrate pride in Haitian culture and history.

The country of Haiti has a long and rich cultural history. On January 1, 1804, Haiti gained its independence from France to become the world's first Black republic and the second democracy after the United States. Haitians and their descendents have also made numerous contributions to politics and the arts and sciences. Jean Baptiste Point DuSable is known as the founder of the city of Chicago. The National Audubon Society was founded in honor of John James Audubon, a Haitian-born naturalist, ornithologist, and artist.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools provides programs that emphasize multicultural education, positive inter-group relations, and cultural sensitivity as a way to promote understanding and harmony among people of all cultures.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

Dr. WILBERT "TEE" HOLLOWAY:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-57 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing May 2009 as Haitian Heritage Month and authorizing administrative actions to foster related activities.

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-57
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING
MAY 2009 AS HAITIAN HERITAGE MONTH AND AUTHORIZING ADMINISTRATIVE
ACTIONS TO FOSTER RELATED ACTIVITIES**

WHEREAS, throughout Haitian history, May has been a month for commemorating Haitian culture, with Haitians across the globe celebrating their achievements and contributions; and

WHEREAS, Haitian Heritage Month provides our diverse community an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the many historic, cultural, social, and economic contributions of Haitians to the United States and to the world; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Haitian Heritage Month will allow students, their families, and the community to demonstrate pride in Haitian culture and history; and

WHEREAS, the Haitian people are heirs to a magnificent and rich heritage and their descendents have made numerous contributions to politics and to the arts and sciences; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools provides programs that emphasize multicultural education, positive inter-group relations, and cultural sensitivity as a way to promote understanding and harmony among people of all cultures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-57 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing May 2009 as Haitian Heritage Month and authorizing administrative actions to foster related activities.

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

Presented this twentieth day of May, A.D. 2009

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary