

Ms. Ana Rivas Logan, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 09-128 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CENSUS BUREAU AND TO PROVIDE THE 2010 CENSUS: IT'S ABOUT US EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM TO OUR STUDENTS**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

**LINK TO DISTRICT**

**STRATEGIC PLAN: ESTABLISH GREATER ALLIANCE WITH LEGISLATIVE BODIES**

The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years. The 2010 Census is scheduled to begin Census Day - April 1, 2010. The census will show state population counts and determine representation in the U.S. House of Representatives. Every year, the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to states and communities based, in part, on census data. Specifically for education, Title I and special education funds available to public schools are greatly affected by the census.

In addition, the State of Florida stands to gain one to two House of Representatives seats at the Federal level. It is estimated that a loss of millions in revenue has occurred due to the under count of the last census. Due to the current economic crisis, there is a perception that there will be a further under count next year.

The U.S. Census Bureau has created a free census in schools educational program entitled **2010 Census: It's About Us**. The program will provide educators with resources to teach the nation's students about the importance of the census so children can help deliver this message to their families. The program is intended to engage America's youth to help ensure every child and every household member is counted in 2010.

The program offers age-specific educational materials for students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The program provides materials for principals includes: maps displaying population counts and other demographic information; lesson plans; a Census in Schools program brochure; information about online lessons; quick-start teaching guides; family take-home kits; and online resources for teachers. The lesson plans are grouped by grade and correlated to national standards for history, civics, math, geography and language arts. The interactive Census in Schools Web Site features memory games, word finds, state facts, coloring pages, research project ideas and much more.

By partnering with the Census Bureau and providing the **2010 Census: It's About Us** educational program to our students, we will bring census awareness to the students and the community. This program will engage America's youth to help ensure every child and every household member is counted in 2010 so that our schools and communities are allocated the funds greatly needed.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MS. ANA RIVAS LOGAN:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-128 of the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approving the partnership with the Census Bureau and to provide the **2010 Census: It's About Us** educational program to our students.