

Dr. Wilbert "Tee" Holloway, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 11-069
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING JUNE 19, 2011, AS JUNETEENTH**

COMMITTEE: SCHOOL SUPPORT ACCOUNTABILITY

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

On June 19, 1865, Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas bearing the news that slaves were free - two full years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. The surrender of General Robert E. Lee in April 1865 and the arrival of Granger's regiment provided the support to enforce the President's Lincoln's Executive Order.

June 19th was coined Juneteenth in recognition of African American Emancipation Day. Juneteenth initially provided former slaves an opportunity to come together for fun activities such as barbecues, fishing, rodeos and baseball as well as prayer service and family reunions. The popularity of Juneteenth saw a resurgence in the late 1960s. It became an official state holiday in Texas in 1980. There is a movement to spread the observance to other states.

Juneteenth is experiencing great momentum across the country. Prestigious institutions including the Smithsonian and the Henry Ford Museum sponsor Juneteenth celebrations and coordinating activities. Local and state organizations continue to plan Juneteenth events every year.

Today, Juneteenth is observed through family gatherings, picnics, guest speakers and church services. Over the years, Juneteenth has become a celebration of African American freedom and achievement. It promotes and cultivates knowledge and appreciation of African American history, culture and education.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. WILBERT "TEE" HOLLOWAY: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County,
Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-069 of The
School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida,
recognizing June 19, 2011, as Juneteenth.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-069
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING JUNE 19, 2011, AS JUNETEENTH**

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas bearing the news that slaves were free; and

WHEREAS, the surrender of General Robert E. Lee in April 1865 and the arrival of Granger's regiment provided the support to enforce President Abraham Lincoln's Executive Order, which had been issued two years earlier; and

WHEREAS, June 19th was coined Juneteenth in recognition of African American Emancipation Day; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth initially provided former slaves an opportunity to come together for fun activities such as barbecues, fishing, rodeos and baseball as well as prayer service and family reunions; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is experiencing great momentum across the country. Prestigious institutions including the Smithsonian and the Henry Ford Museum sponsor Juneteenth celebrations and coordinating activities; and

WHEREAS, today, Juneteenth is observed through family gatherings, picnics, guest speakers and church services. Over the years, Juneteenth has become a celebration of African American freedom and achievement. It promotes and cultivates knowledge and appreciation of African American history, culture and education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-069 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing June 19, 2011, as Juneteenth.

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

Presented this fifteenth day of June, A.D. 2011

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary