

Dr. Wilbert "Tee" Holloway, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 11-071
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE YEAR 2011 AS
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF AFRICAN DESCENDANTS**

COMMITTEE: SCHOOL SUPPORT ACCOUNTABILITY

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

On December 18, 2009, the United Nations (U.N.) General Assembly proclaimed 2011 as the International Year for People of African Descent with the goal of strengthening national action and international cooperation for the benefit of people of African descent. The United Nation's main objective is to raise awareness of the challenges facing people of African descent and inspire dialogue to generate solutions to these challenges. Approximately 200 million people who identify themselves as being of African descent live in the Americas and many millions more live in other countries.

The year 2011 was selected by the United Nations because the year coincides with the release of the 2001 U.N. document titled "U.N. Declaration and Programme of Action." The report included more than 122 affirmations, recognitions and recommendations for more than 219 actions aimed at eliminating institutional racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance worldwide.

In January 2011, U.S. Representative Bobby L. Rush introduced a House Resolution that urges Members of Congress to support the U.N.'s proclamation recognizing 2011 as the International Year for People of African Descent. In addition, the Resolution encourages the United States to strengthen cooperation to promote the empowerment of people of African descent in relation to their social, educational, political, and economic rights; make an effort to advance the diverse cultural traditions and heritage of people of African descent, and strengthen its commitment to eliminate racism, undo historical injustices, and celebrate the political, social, and economic contributions of people of African descent.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. WILBERT "TEE" HOLLOWAY: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-071 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the Year 2011 as International Year of African Descendants.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-071
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING THE YEAR 2011 AS INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
AFRICAN DESCENDANTS**

WHEREAS, approximately 200 million people who identify themselves as being of African descent live in the Americas and many millions more live in other countries; and

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2009, the United Nations (U.N.) General Assembly proclaimed 2011 as the International Year for People of African Descent with the goal of strengthening national action and international cooperation for the benefit of people of African descent; and

WHEREAS, the United Nation's main objective is to raise awareness of the challenges facing people of African descent and inspire dialogue to generate solutions to these challenges; and

WHEREAS, in January 2011, U.S. Representative Bobby L. Rush introduced a House Resolution that urges Members of Congress to support the U.N.'s proclamation recognizing 2011 as the International Year for People of African Descent; and

WHEREAS, the resolution encourages the United States to strengthen cooperation to promote the empowerment of people of African descent in relation to their social, educational, political, and economic rights; make an effort to advance the diverse cultural traditions and heritage of people of African descent, and strengthen its commitment to eliminate racism, undo historical injustices, and celebrate the political, social, and economic contributions of people of African descent;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-071 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the Year 2011 as International Year of African Descendants.

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