

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 12-140 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 17, 2012, AS CONSTITUTION DAY

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

September 17, 2012, has been designated as Constitution Day, commemorating the formation and signing of the U.S. Constitution. This observance provides a welcome opportunity to highlight the principles outlined by the Framers, as well as those Amendments which form the basis of our governmental structure and guarantee that certain liberties and protections, such as the freedom of speech, the freedom of religion and the freedom to assemble are duly protected.

Recently, former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor expressed her concern over the lack of civics education in our nation's schools. In response she has helped to launch iCivics, a free online educational resource that can be used in the classroom and the home. Similarly, former U.S. Senator Bob Graham has helped to establish the Graham Center for Public Service at the University of Florida, which now partners with the Academy for Citizenship Studies & Public Service housed at the Bob Graham Education Center in Miami Lakes, because a solid understanding of our civic responsibilities and government processes are critical to maintaining the strength and character of our nation.

Further, through our policies and actions, we as a school system, have a responsibility to ensure that students fully understand the ideals and guarantees provided for in the U.S. Constitution, and that our practices and procedures reflect those ideals. Therefore, while Miami-Dade County Public Schools is honored to recognize and celebrate the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 2012, we recognize that we are privileged to be entrusted to imbue the next generation of American citizens with an understanding of the values and liberties on which the great republic of the United States is based, across our District and in our classrooms every day of the year.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR
PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-140 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing September 17, 2012, as Constitution Day.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-140
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 17, 2012, AS CONSTITUTION DAY**

WHEREAS, September 17, 2012, has been designated as Constitution Day, commemorating the formation and signing of the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, this observance provides a welcome opportunity to highlight the principles outlined by the Framers, as well as those Amendments which form the basis of our governmental structure and guarantee that certain liberties and protections, such as the freedom of speech, the freedom of religion and the freedom to assemble are duly protected; and

WHEREAS, former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor has helped to launch iCivics, a free online educational resource that can be used in the classroom and the home. Former U.S. Senator Bob Graham has helped to establish the Graham Center for Public Service at the University of Florida, which now partners with the Academy for Citizenship Studies & Public Service housed at the Bob Graham Education Center in Miami Lakes, because a solid understanding of our civic responsibilities and government processes are critical to maintaining the strength and character of our nation; and

WHEREAS, through our policies and actions, we as a school system, have a responsibility to ensure that students fully understand the ideals and guarantees provided for in the U.S. Constitution, and that our practices and procedures reflect those ideals; and

WHEREAS, while Miami-Dade County Public Schools is honored to recognize and celebrate the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 2012, we recognize that we are privileged to be entrusted to imbue the next generation of American citizens with an understanding of the values and liberties on which the great republic of the United States is based, across our District and in our classrooms every day of the year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-140 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing September 17, 2012, as Constitution Day.

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

Presented this fifth day of September, A.D. 2012

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary