

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 17-013 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FLORIDA, DESIGNATING MARCH 2017 AS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH TO BE CELEBRATED IN ALL MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, EVALUATION, AND TECHNOLOGY**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: SAFE, HEALTHY, AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

In 1978, the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women initiated a local Women's History Week celebration to address the lack of K-12 curriculum inclusion and the general public consciousness regarding historical and contemporary contributions of women to our nation.

In 1980, the National Women's History Project (NWHHP) was founded in Santa Rosa, California as a non-profit organization by women committed to increasing the awareness of women's historical achievements. The founders of the NWHHP, petitioned the United States Congress to expand the weeklong celebration to the entire month of March. In 1987, encouraged by the successful campaign of NWHHP, growing momentum and state-by-state resolution, Congress declared March as National Women's History Month in perpetuity. Accordingly, a special Presidential Proclamation is issued each year honoring the extraordinary achievements of American Women.

Recognition of Women's History Month continues to become increasingly widespread, nationally and throughout the world, as the vital roles of women and their important contributions are emerging. The theme for 2017's celebration is "Honoring Trailblazing Women in Labor and Business."

In 1998, the Florida Legislature amended Florida Statutes to require instruction in "women's contributions to the United States." Throughout the school year, students in Miami-Dade County Public Schools study the many contributions of women, how they have impacted history, and their relevance to today's society. In recognition of Women's History Month, select curriculum materials will be distributed to all schools to enlighten students about women's contributions to our community, state, and nation.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**DR. BENDROSS-MINDINGALL:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida approve Resolution No. 17-013 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida designating March 2017 as Women's History Month to be celebrated in all Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

**RESOLUTION NO. 17-013  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
DESIGNATING MARCH 2017 AS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH TO BE CELEBRATED IN  
ALL MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS**, in 1978, the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women initiated a Women's History Week celebration to commemorate the historical and contemporary contributions of women to our nation; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1987, encouraged by the successful campaign of the National Women's History Project (NWHP), growing momentum and state-by-state resolution, Congress declared the entire month of March as National Women's History Month in perpetuity; and

**WHEREAS**, the national month-long observance seeks to raise-awareness regarding the influence of women's legacy and achievements on our nation and cultures; and

**WHEREAS**, curriculum infusion of the historic achievements of women and the celebration of National Women's History Month are effective means to achieve equity goals within the classroom and to increase the consciousness of the general public; and

**WHEREAS**, this year represents the 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Women's History Movement and the National Women's History Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the theme for 2017's celebration is "Honoring Trailblazing Women in Labor and Business;" and

**WHEREAS**, American women of every race, culture, class, ethnic, and socio-economic background are investing time, resources, and intellectual support to the advancement of our Nation and international endeavors on behalf of women worldwide; and

**WHEREAS**, American women are making historic contributions to the growth, nurturing, strength, educational enhancement, and scientific and technological advancement of our Nation and globally in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout the school year, students in Miami-Dade County Public Schools study the many contributions of women and how they are impacting history.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 17-013 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, designating March 2017 as Women's History Month to be celebrated in all Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

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

**Presented this twenty-fifth day of January, A.D. 2017**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary