

Ms. Lucia Baez-Geller, Board Member

SUBJECT: THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZE APRIL 23 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2022, AS THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST, INCLUDING THE DAY OF REMEMBRANCE KNOWN AS YOM HASHOAH ON APRIL 28, 2022, TO BE OBSERVED THROUGHOUT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (M-DCPS)

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION & TECHNOLOGY

LINK TO STRATEGIC

PLAN: RELEVANT, RIGOROUS, & INNOVATIVE ACADEMICS

The United States Congress established the Days of Remembrance as our nation's annual commemoration of the Holocaust and created the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as a permanent living memorial to the victims. This year's Days of Remembrance takes place from April 23 through April 30, 2022, including the Day of Remembrance known as Yom Hashoah on April 28, 2022.

With an alarming rise in antisemitism in the United States and throughout the world, it is becoming even more critical to teach the lessons of the past to improve the future. The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's working definition of antisemitism reads as follows: "Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews which may be expressed as hatred towards Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities." As one of the oldest forms of hatred, antisemitism is unique in that genocidal aspirations are global in nature and extend beyond national borders.

Each year, Miami-Dade County Public Schools emphasizes Holocaust education to teach children tolerance so that such crimes are not repeated against any group. Training is conducted for teachers through the Holocaust Institute at the University of Miami, and Holocaust Remembrance Week is held in cooperation with the Holocaust Memorial in Miami Beach. Schools throughout the District receive an updated curriculum packet from the Department of Social Sciences and Holocaust survivors visit schools on request throughout April and May. Remembrance obligates us not only to memorialize those who were killed, but also to reflect on what could have been done to save them. Those who survived tell us that as many faced their horrific deaths, their last words were, "Remember us. Tell our story."

This item has been reviewed and approved by the School Board Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. LUCIA BAEZ-GELLER:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognize April 23 through April 30, 2022, as the Days of Remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust, including the Day of Remembrance known as Yom Hashoah on April 28, 2022, to be observed throughout Miami-Dade County Public Schools.