Office of School Board Members
Board Meeting of August 16, 2023

August 9, 2023

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Chair

Co-Sponsors: Mr. Daniel Espino, Vice Chair
Mr. Roberto J. Alonso
Ms. Lucia Baez-Geller
Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall
Ms. Mary Blanco
Ms. Monica Colucci
Dr. Steve Gallon III
Ms. Luisa Santos

Revised

SUBJECT: **SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FROM SEPTEMBER 15, 2023, THROUGH OCTOBER 15, 2023.**

COMMITTEE: **ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION, & TECHNOLOGY**

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: **INFORMED, ENGAGED, & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS**

Every year, Americans across the nation observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15th to October 15th as a way of recognizing the many contributions of Hispanic Americans to our history. During the month-long observance, Americans celebrate the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose forefathers came from Spain, Central and South America, Mexico, and the Caribbean.

The observance began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week and later was expanded in 1988 to cover a 30-day period. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988. The date of September 15th was chosen as the starting date for the observance because it is the anniversary of the independence of five Central American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico and Chile also celebrate their respective days of independence in the month of September.

There are over 61 million people of Hispanic origin in the United States, making Hispanics the nation's largest ethnic minority. Hispanics constitute about 18.5 percent of the nation's total population. According to the United States (U.S.) Census, the projected Hispanic population in the U. S. in 2060 will be approximately 111 million. In Miami-Dade County Public Schools, over 74% of the student population is of Hispanic descent.

This item has been reviewed and approved by the General Counsel's Office as to form and legal sufficiency.

ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR MS. MARIA TERESA ROJAS: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse Hispanic Heritage Month in Miami-Dade County Public Schools from September 15, 2023, through October 15, 2023.

Revised
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