

Mr. Danny Espino, Board Member

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Ms. Monica Colucci, Vice Chair  
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Ms. Mary Blanco  
Dr. Steve Gallon III  
Mr. Joseph S. Geller  
Ms. Luisa Santos

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**SUBJECT: THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZES THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2025, AS NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

**COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

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

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, calling on people of all faiths in the United States to pray for the nation, its leaders, and all who call it home. In 2026, the National Day of Prayer falls on Thursday, May 7, 2026. The tradition dates to a 1952 joint resolution of Congress signed by President Harry S. Truman, which established an annual day of prayer and reflection for Americans. A 1988 amendment later designated the first Thursday in May as the official date annually. Presidents of the United States traditionally issue an annual proclamation recognizing this observance and encouraging citizens to engage in prayer or meditation in ways consistent with their own faiths and beliefs.

Participation in the National Day of Prayer reflects the diverse spiritual practices and beliefs of our nation and underscores the importance of respecting students' and staff members' individual rights to religious expression. This recognition seeks the Board's approval to acknowledge Thursday, May 7, 2026, as the National Day of Prayer in accordance with applicable School Board Policies 8800, *Religious Ceremonies/Observances and Moment of Quiet Reflection*, and School Board Policy 8805, *Religious Expression*, as well as relevant state and federal laws governing religious expression in public schools.

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

**ACTION PROPOSED BY MR. DANNY ESPINO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizes Thursday, May 7, 2026, as the National Day of Prayer and directs the Superintendent to inform all schools and District staff to respect students' and staff's recognition of the National Day of Prayer in accordance with applicable School Board Policies 8800, *Religious Ceremonies/Observances and Moment of Quiet Reflection*, School Board Policy 8805, *Religious Expression*, and State and Federal law.