

February 10, 2004

Dr. Robert B. Ingram, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 04-13 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, DESIGNATING MARCH 2004 AS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH TO BE CELEBRATED IN ALL MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

In 1998, the Florida Legislature amended Florida Statutes to require instruction in "women's contributions to the United States." Throughout each school year, students in Miami-Dade County Public Schools study the many contributions of women. Each year, the Congress of the United States issues a resolution designating March as Women's History Month. Additionally, a Presidential Proclamation is issued encouraging all Americans to observe this month in recognizing the role of women in history.

One of the requirements of the district's Student Progression Plan and the K-12 social studies instructional program is the study of women's contributions and how women have impacted history. The Division of Social Sciences has developed a women's history curriculum resource guide entitled *FACES, A Journey Through Women's History*, to support this mandate. Additional instructional materials in FCAT format have also been developed by the Division and disseminated to all schools. A curriculum packet to support this year's National Women's History Month theme: "Women Inspiring Hope & Possibility" will be distributed to all schools in late February.

Therefore, it is fitting that the Board approve Resolution No. 04-13 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, as a continuing example of leadership and with the recognition that it will create a heightened awareness and appreciation of the many significant contributions women have made to the United States.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. ROBERT B. INGRAM**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 04-13 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, designating March 2004 as Women's History Month to be celebrated in all Miami-Dade County's public schools.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-13 OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
DESIGNATING MARCH 2004 AS
"WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH" TO BE CELEBRATED
IN ALL MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, American women of every culture, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

WHEREAS, American women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of the life of the Nation by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home; and

WHEREAS, American women have played a unique role through the history of the Nation by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force of the Nation; and

WHEREAS, American women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in our Nation; and

WHEREAS, American women of every culture, class, and ethnic background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement; and

WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and other movements, especially the peace movement, which create a more fair and just society for all; and

WHEREAS, despite these contributions, the role of American women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued in the literature, teaching, and study of American history; and

WHEREAS, in Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the study of the contributions of women to the United States is mandatory;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 04-13 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, designating March 2004 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 eleventh day of February, 2004 A.D.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary