

August 17, 1999

Dr. Marta Pérez, Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 99-30 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF MIAMI'S CONSIDERATION TO PROCLAIM SEPTEMBER AS NON-VIOLENCE MONTH**

Violence is one of the biggest problems in urban communities today with many children experiencing or witnessing violence in the home, on the street, or at school. Acknowledging this as a serious problem, the City of Miami is working closely with the Non-Violence Project, an international youth based organization that is attempting to change attitudes about violence. As a part of this effort, the City of Miami Commission will be asked to proclaim September as Non-Violence Month in its city.

A sense of urgency has arisen regarding violence as a result of the following state statistics: 14,874 incidents of school violence during the 1997-98 school year; 2,391 of those incidents were in Miami-Dade. Although these statistics are down from the previous year, the message of peaceful conflict resolution must continue to be stressed. Therefore, it would behoove Miami-Dade County Public Schools to join in the effort to send a strong message to the community and in particular to our students and employees that violence does not have to be a part of our everyday lives and that our community members do not have to live in fear. For that reason, it is requested that the Board support the resolution for the City of Miami's consideration to proclaim September as Non-Violence Month.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
DR. MARTA PÉREZ:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 99-30 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, supporting a resolution for the City of Miami's consideration to proclaim September as Non-Violence Month.

MP:jm

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RESOLUTION NO. 99-30 OF THE  
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
SUPPORTING A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF MIAMI'S CONSIDERATION  
TO PROCLAIM SEPTEMBER AS NON-VIOLENCE MONTH

WHEREAS, violence is one of the biggest problems in urban communities today with many children experiencing or witnessing violence in the home, on the street, or at school; and

WHEREAS, there were 14,874 incidents of school violence in Florida during the 1997-1998 school year, and 2,391 of those incidents were in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, despite the decrease in reported school violence, a constant message must be delivered to our children that conflicts can be resolved peacefully; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Miami-Dade County concurs with the Non-Violence Project's mission to use knowledge as the best weapon against violence, and to educate our school children about the alternatives to violent behavior, and to engage young people in positive action;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 99-30 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, supporting a resolution for the City of Miami's consideration to proclaim September as Non-Violence Month.

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

Presented this twenty-fifth day of August, A.D. 1999

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary