

PROCLAMATION

School Psychology Week

Whereas, all children and youth can learn with the proper supports, and have the inalienable right to an education that meets their needs; and

Whereas, children's mental health is directly linked to their learning and development; and

Whereas, sound psychological principles are integral to instruction and learning; social and emotional development; prevention and early intervention; and supporting culturally diverse student populations; and

Whereas, mental health encompasses mental wellness (resiliency/social skills), mental health problems (mild signs and symptoms interfering with performance), and mental illness (diagnosable disorders); and

Whereas, too many children and youth with mental health concerns are not getting the help they need and mental health problems and disorders interfere with life and school success; and

Whereas, schools provide an optimal context to provide mental health services because of the nature of the learning environment, and the fact that most children are accessible and familiar there; and

Whereas, school-based mental health services are a critical part of a continuum of mental health services for children and youth; and

Whereas, school psychologists are specially trained to deliver a continuum of mental health services and academic supports within the school setting; and

Whereas, school psychologists facilitate collaboration and help parents and educators identify and reduce risk factors; create effective, caring schools; access needed community resources; and implement research-driven prevention and intervention strategies; and

Whereas, The School District of Palm Beach County should recognize the vital role that school psychologists play in the personal and academic development of Palm Beach County's children.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Superintendent and the School Board of Palm Beach County do hereby declare November 6-10, 2006, as *School Psychology Week* in Palm Beach County and commend observance to all of our citizens.

Done this 21st day of November, two thousand six in West Palm Beach, Florida

Arthur C. Johnson, Ph.D., Superintendent

Mr. Thomas Lynch, Chair

Mr. Bill Graham, Vice-Chair

Monroe Benaim, M.D.

Mrs. Paulette Burdick

Mr. Mark Hansen

Dr. Sandra Richmond

Debra Robinson, M.D.

