

PROCLAMATION

FOREIGN LANGUAGE WEEK

WHEREAS, in 2001, the United States Congress recognized the importance of foreign language study, formalizing it in the “No Child Left Behind Act” by designating foreign languages as a core academic area; and

WHEREAS, the 2002 Florida Legislature passed legislation requiring Florida public schools to develop a K-12 foreign language plan; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Census Bureau in 2002, 24 percent of Florida’s residents speak a language other than English at home; and

WHEREAS, a 2000 survey of Florida businesses indicated that more than half employed up to 50 percent bilingual employees; and

WHEREAS, according to the centers for the International Business Education and Research, foreign language study provides the ability to gain comprehensive understanding of and interaction with the cultures of United States trading partners, and thus establishes a solid foundation for successful economic relationships; and

WHEREAS, research indicates students with four or more years of foreign language study scored higher on college entrance examinations than students who did not.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Superintendent and School Board of Palm Beach County proclaims March 5 - 11, 2007, as *Foreign Language Week* for Palm Beach County schools.

Done this 21st day of March, two thousand seven, in West Palm Beach, Florida

Arthur C. Johnson, Ph.D., Superintendent

William G. Graham, Chairman

Monroe Benaim, M.D., Vice-Chairman

Mrs. Paulette Burdick

Mr. Mark Hansen

Mr. Robert J. Kanjian

Dr. Sandra S. Richmond

Debra L. Robinson, M.D.

