The Division of Social Sciences and Life Skills is sponsoring the annual Black History Essay Contest for elementary school students.

- The purpose of this contest is to enhance elementary school students' writing skills while promoting an awareness of the 2010 Black History theme, "The History of Black Economic Empowerment."
- Elementary school students up to grade 5 are eligible to participate. (Sixth grade students who are still housed in an elementary school and sixth grade students in K-8 center must enter the middle school competition.)
- Essays must be typed, with a maximum length of 500 words (2 pages), double spaced on white paper, and stapled on the upper left hand corner. The writing prompt must be typed on the cover sheet.
- The cover sheet must include the student's:
  - Name;
  - Grade Level; and
  - School.
- First, second, and third place winners are asked to attend the District's annual Black History program. The program is scheduled for Thursday, February 18, 2010 at 12:00 noon. Prizes will be awarded during this time in the SBAB Auditorium. (Winners must provide a Social Security number in order to collect their prize.)
- The SBAB auditorium address is 1450 NE Second Avenue, Miami, FL 33132.

**PROMPT:**
- On April 1, 2010 your family is being encouraged to complete the 2010 Census.
- In the past, many living in the Miami area have been unwilling to complete the census form. Families are often not aware of the economic advantages that a complete and accurate census count brings to the community.
- Think about the many struggles African Americans have overcome and the progress made due to economic gain.
- Now, write a speech for a town hall meeting to convince your neighborhood to use the census as a means to help your community.

**PRIZES:**
First, second, and third place prizes as follows:
- 1st place - $300 U.S. Savings Bond
- 2nd place - $200 U.S. Savings Bond
- 3rd place - $100 U.S. Savings Bond

**GUIDELINES:**
- All entries must be received on or before Friday, February 5, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. Faxed entries will not be accepted.
- Attached are complete contest guidelines.

If there are any questions please contact, Dr. Sherrilyn Scott, District Supervisor, Division of Social Sciences and Life Skills, at the number listed below, or by email sherrilyncott@dadeschools.net.

**Contact:** Dr. Sherrilyn Scott (305-995-1971)
**Department:** Division of Social Sciences and Life Skills