

ALL PRINCIPALS/APs/TEACHERS: Celebrate Freedom Week, September 22-26, 2014

Category: For Your Information

Audience: All Principals/APs, All Teachers

Due Date: n/a

Meeting Date: n/a

Attachment(s): [Elementary Celebrate Freedom Resource Guide 2014.doc](#)
[Secondary Celebrate Freedom Resource Guide 2014.doc](#)

The Department of Social Sciences has developed instructional resources to assist elementary and secondary teachers in providing required instruction on the Declaration of Independence.

- Florida Statute 1003.421 requires the following:
The last full week of classes each September shall be recognized in public schools as Celebrate Freedom Week. Celebrate Freedom Week must include instruction on the intent, meaning, and importance of the Declaration of Independence.
- Per Florida Statute 1003.421, during the last full week of September, at the beginning of each school day or in homeroom, public school principals and teachers shall conduct an oral recitation by students of the following passage from the Declaration of Independence:
"We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed..."
- Upon written request by a student's parent, the student must be excused from the recitation of the Declaration of Independence.
- The Department of Social Sciences has compiled elementary and secondary resource guides to assist teachers in providing instruction on the Declaration of Independence. Detailed lesson plans with all readings and support materials needed to teach about the Declaration of Independence are provided in the guides. Internet resources and a complete copy of the Declaration of Independence are also included in the resource guides. Please see attachments to this briefing.
- The link provided below is for a Power Point presentation that may be utilized during Celebrate Freedom Week. The presentation may be downloaded and used school-wide during opening exercises or in individual classrooms.
[http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net/files/CELEBRATE FREEDOM WEEK POWER POINT 2014.pptx](http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net/files/CELEBRATE_FREEDOM_WEEK_POWER_POINT_2014.pptx)
- Please share these resources with the teachers in your school. Teachers are free to duplicate the resources, as needed.
- If you have any questions regarding Celebrate Freedom Week, please contact Mr. Robert C. Brazofsky, Executive Director, Department of Social Sciences, rbrazofsky@dadeschools.net or see the contact information below.

Contact: Mr. Robert Brazofsky (305-995-1982)

Department: Department of Social Sciences