

ALL PRINCIPALS/APs/TEACHERS: Instructional Resources for Celebrate Freedom Week, September 26 - 30, 2016

*Category: For Your Information*

**Audience:** All Principals/APs, All Teachers

Due Date: n/a

Meeting Date: n/a

**Attachment(s):** [CELEBRATE FREEDOM WEEK POWER POINT 2016.pptx](#)

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To provide instructional resources on the Declaration of Independence.

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- 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 instructional resource guides to assist teachers in providing instruction on the Declaration of Independence. These instructional resource guides include background information on the Declaration of Independence, full lesson plans and activities, suggested Internet resources, and other activities to support the character education core value for September (respect). In addition, many of the intermediate elementary and middle school lesson plans directly support the tested Benchmarks for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade End-of-Course Exam (EOC).
- The resources may be accessed at:  
[Celebrate Freedom Week Elementary Resource Guide](#)  
[Celebrate Freedom Week Secondary Resource Guide](#)
- Attached is a Power Point presentation that may be utilized during Celebrate Freedom Week. The Power Point may be used school-wide during opening exercises or in individual classrooms.
- In addition, Celebrate Freedom Week Instructional Resources may be downloaded from the Department of Social Sciences' website: <http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net>; look under “Current News,” “Instructional Packets,” and find the file titled “Celebrate Freedom Week.”
- If you have any questions regarding Celebrate Freedom Week, please contact Mr. Robert Brazofsky, Executive Director, Department of Social Sciences, at 305-995-1982, or by e-mail at [rbrazofsky@dadeschools.net](mailto:rbrazofsky@dadeschools.net).

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