

ALL PRINCIPALS/AP'S/TEACHERS: Instructional Resources for Celebrate Freedom Week, September 25-29, 2017  
*Category: For Your Information*

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

**Due Date:** n/a

**Meeting Date:** n/a

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To provide instructional resources to all schools on the Declaration of Independence for Celebrate Freedom Week, September 25-29, 2017.

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- Celebrate Freedom Week will be held from September 25-29, 2017.
- Florida Statute 1003.421 requires the following regarding instruction on the Declaration of Independence during Celebrate Freedom Week:
  - o 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.
  - o 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:
  - o "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."
  - o 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, full lesson plans, suggested Internet resources, and other activities to support the character education core value designated by the District for September (Respect). In addition, many of the 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:
  - [Elementary Resource Guide Celebrate Freedom Week](#)
  - [Secondary Resource Guide Celebrate Freedom Week](#)
- A PowerPoint presentation, available by accessing the link below, may be utilized during Celebrate Freedom Week. The PowerPoint may be used school-wide during opening exercises or in individual classrooms.
  - [PowerPoint Presentation: Celebrate Freedom Week](#)
- Please share these resources with the teachers in your school and feel free to duplicate copies of the resources, as needed.
- Celebrate Freedom Week resources are also posted on the [Department of Social Sciences' website](#). Look under "Current News," "Instructional Resources 2017-2018," and find the file titled: "Celebrate Freedom Week Sept. 25-29." Many of the lessons included may be useful for other times throughout the school year.
- 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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