To provide instructional resources for required instruction during the month of September, as outlined in Florida Statutes § 1003.42, in support of American Founders’ Month, Patriot Day, Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, & Celebrate Freedom Week.

- The Division of Academics, Department of Social Sciences has compiled instructional resource guides and Power Point presentations to assist teachers in providing instruction during the month of September 2019. These guides include background information, suggested classroom activities, suggested Internet resources, and other activities to support the character education core value designated by the District for September ( Respect).

- To access any of the curricular mandates for the month of September, log into the employee portal, click on the “Curriculum Resources” tab, find the yellow “Special Commemorative Resources” tab and then you will see file folders with the titles found below in bold.

  - **American Founders’ Month:**
    - The Florida Legislature has designated each September to be commemorated as American Founders’ Month.
    - American Founders' Month provides us with the opportunity to study our nation’s early history and the leaders who defined the fundamental principles on which our nation was established, who wrote our founding documents, and who helped to establish our nation and government.
    - Florida Statutes 683.1455 establishing American Founders’ Month reads as follows:
      - The month of September of each year is designated as "American Founders' Month."
      - The Governor may annually issue a proclamation designating the month of September as "American Founders' Month" and urging all civic, fraternal, and religious organizations and public and private educational institutions to recognize and observe this occasion through appropriate programs, meetings, services, or celebrations in which state, county, and local governmental officials are invited to participate.

  - **Patriot Day – September 11, 2019:**
    - Patriot Day will be commemorated on Wednesday, September 11, 2019. This day marks the 18th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks against the United States at the World Trade Centers, the Pentagon, and aboard United Flight 93 over Pennsylvania.
    - In recognition of Patriot Day, it is strongly recommended that schools develop a short
commemorative program which incorporates a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m. in memory of those who lost their lives in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. (8:46 a.m. marks the time the first hijacked airliner struck the north tower of the World Trade Center.) The suggested narrative for the moment of silence is provided in the instructional resource guide accordingly.

- **Constitution Day and Citizenship Day – September 17, 2019:**
  - Every September 17th, per federal legislation and Florida Statutes, all schools are required to hold educational programs commemorating Constitution Day and Citizenship Day.

- **Celebrate Freedom Week – September 23-27, 2019:**
  - Celebrate Freedom Week will be commemorated state-wide from September 23-27, 2019.
  - The commemoration of Celebrate Freedom Week is required by Florida Statutes 1003.421. The statute requires instruction on the Declaration of Independence during Celebrate Freedom Week, as follows:
    - 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.
    - 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.

- Principals, assistant principals, and school-site curriculum leaders are highly encouraged to inform teachers of the availability of these resources.
- For information about contests for American Founders’ Month and Constitution Day, please see WB #26201.
- **Note:** instructional resources for Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15- October 15, 2019) are being published in a separate briefing.
- If you have any questions regarding any of the above commemorations, please contact Mr. Robert Brazofsky, Executive Director, Department of Social Sciences, at the contact number listed below, or by e-mail at rbrazofsky@dadeschools.net.

**Contact:** Mr. Robert C. Brazofsky, Executive Director (305-995-1982)

**Department:** Department of Social Sciences