

# NEWS

## AS PROPOSED BY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER PERLA TABARES HANTMAN, SCHOOL BOARD VOTES TO COMMEMORATE THE 107TH ANNIVERSARY OF CUBAN INDEPENDENCE

Contact: Perla Tabares Hantman  
305-995-1334

### NEWS RELEASE FROM PERLA TABARES HANTMAN

April 24, 2009

As proposed by Board Member Perla Tabares Hantman, District 4, the Miami-Dade School Board unanimously endorsed May 20, 2009 as the 107th anniversary of Cuban independence.

“Miami-Dade County Public Schools is proud of its efforts to support the Cuban-American community,” said Ms. Hantman. “Students at all grade levels are taught democratic principles to ensure that they understand the importance of liberty and freedom. As we approach the 107<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cuban independence from Spain, Miami-Dade County Public Schools honors the Cuban-American community and extends hope that freedom and democracy soon will be a reality for Cuba and its people.”

The struggle for Cuban independence ended on May 20, 1902, after a long and courageous battle against Spain and a brief occupation by the United States following the Spanish-American War in 1898. Throughout the late 1800s, Cuban patriots, including Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, Antonio Maceo, Máximo Gómez, Calixto García, Tomás Estrada Palma and José Martí, fought for Cuban independence from Spain’s colonial rule.

In commemorating the 107<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cuba’s independence from Spain, we also celebrate Cuban culture and the strong historical ties between Cuba and the United States

###