

NEWS

THE MIAMI-DADE SCHOOL BOARD APPROVES TWO ITEMS PROPOSED BY BOARD CHAIR PERLA TABARES HANTMAN ENDORSING MARCH 2013 AS ARTS IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH, PROMOTING MARCH AS FLORIDA BIKE MONTH

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NEWS RELEASE FROM PERLA TABARES HANTMAN

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The School Board unanimously approved two items proposed by Board Chair Perla Tabares Hantman at its regular meeting this week. The items endorse March 2013 as both Arts in Our Schools Month and Florida Bike Month, which also encourages participation in the national bike to school day festivities, and recognizes the Bikesafe® program.

"The arts are an essential part of public education," said Hantman, a long-time supporter of arts education. "Arts in Our Schools Month' not only enhances students' understanding of the world around them, but it also broadens their perspective on traditional academics, and is integral in the development of the whole person." She added, "March is *Florida Bike Month*, which promotes healthy lifestyle choices, and encourages physical fitness and helps reduce the chances of chronic illnesses and obesity."

The Board voted to:

- Endorse March 2013 as Arts In Our Schools Month.
- Promote March 2013 as Florida Bike Month and May 8, 2013 as National Bike to School Day.

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