

PROCLAMATION

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, the observation of Native American Heritage Month provides the opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the numerous contributions of the Native American Indians and to recognize the diverse and living traditions of the ORIGINAL people to call this great land home; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans have served with valor in all of North American's wars—including the Revolutionary War where the Navajo Code-talkers received medals for their service during World War II—right up to the conflict in the Persian Gulf; and not excluding the Shoshone woman, Sacajawea, who helped guide explorers Lewis and Clark on their historic expedition to explore the uncharted West; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans have made distinct and important contributions to the United State and the rest of the world in many fields, including agriculture, medicine, music, language, and art; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Census reports that thousands of Native Americans currently live in Palm Beach County, Florida, with nearly 50 District employees identified as Native American and over 700 students identified as such; and

WHEREAS, the historical and cultural influences of our Native American heritage is outweighed only by the vital and integral role current Native American residents continue to play in shaping the future of Palm Beach County, Florida, and the nation; and

WHEREAS, all residents of Palm Beach County are encouraged to learn about the history, contributions, and heritage of the Native peoples of this great land.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Superintendent and the School Board of Palm Beach County do hereby proclaim November 2012 as *Native American Heritage Month* and showcase the unique culture, heritage, and contributions of Native Americans.

Done this 20th day of November, two thousand twelve, in West Palm Beach, Florida

E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent

Marcia Andrews

Karen M. Brill

Mike Murgio

Frank A. Barbieri, Jr., Esq., Chairman

Debra Robinson, M.D., Vice Chairman

Jennifer Prior Brown, Esq.

Chuck Shaw

