

RESOLUTION

No. 24-94

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF JUNETEENTH AWARENESS DAY JUNE 19, 2024

WHEREAS, as "Juneteenth Independence Day" in recognition of June 19, 1865, the date on which slavery legally came to an end in the United States; and

WHEREAS, approximately eleven and one-half million people of African descent survived the voyage to the New World, the number that died is likely greater, only to be subjected to murder, beatings, branding, rape, tearing apart of families and forced to submit to slavery for more than 200 years after arrival in the United States; and

WHEREAS, news of the end of slavery did not reach the frontier areas of the United States, in particular the State of Texas and the other Southwestern States, until months after the conclusion of the Civil War, more than 2½ years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, slavery was not officially abolished until the ratification of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States in December 1865; and

WHEREAS, The "19th of June" or Juneteenth Independence Day, along with the "4th of July", completes the cycle of freedom for America's Independence Day observances. "Until All are Free, None are Free" is an oft repeated maxim that can be used to highlight the significance of the end of the era of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, through other systems of oppression, such as sharecropping, Jim Crow, redlining, and mass incarceration, the plunder of black wealth and black persons continued past slavery and persists to this day, affecting the physical and mental health, safety, and education of African Americans; and

WHEREAS, liberation from these systems of oppression must include political, economic, and educational liberation. This liberation is manifested in ways such as culturally responsive schools, financial literacy, access to loans, jobs, and the means of self-improvement, and the ability to own the land in one's own neighborhood.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the School Board of Broward County, Florida, hereby extends its support to the concept and the intent of Juneteenth Independence Day and urges all schools, departments, and centers within its jurisdiction to support this community wide observance.

JUNETEENTH AWARENESS DAY JUNE 19, 2024

Given at Fort Lauderdale, Florida this 8th day of August 2023

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY FLORIDA

Y:

Lori Alhadeff, Chair

ATTEST: Dr. Peter B. Licata, Superintendent of Schools

The Resolution is compliant with State and Federal Laws.