

January 8, 1999

Deputy Superintendent of Schools
Henry C. Fraind

SUBJECT: DIRECTION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS AND THE ADOPTION OF STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

In 1996, the Florida Legislature began allowing school boards to enter into agreements with counties and municipalities for mutual aid in law enforcement services. On October 9, 1996, the Miami-Dade County School Board amended Board Rule 6Gx13- 4A-1.09 to allow the Division of School Police to assist other law enforcement agencies through mutual aid agreements. On November 20, 1996, the Board authorized the Superintendent to negotiate and sign mutual aid agreements on its behalf with Metropolitan Miami-Dade County and municipalities within Miami-Dade County, Florida. During the July 8, 1998 meeting, Board members discussed mutual aid agreements and unanimously voted to delay their implementation until standard operating procedures are brought back for the Board's consideration.

While agreements have been signed by 15 of the county's 33 municipalities, including Miami-Dade County, they cannot be enacted until the Board approves the aforementioned standard operating procedures for the school district's police force. During the development of the standard operating procedures several issues arose which staff believes require clear direction from the Board; those issues are set forth below.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. Give the Superintendent direction on the points listed below for the implementation of agreements for mutual aid in law enforcement services and the adoption of standard operating procedures:
 - a. Whether the Board wishes to extend the jurisdiction of the School Board police department beyond School Board property or maintain its practice not to extend the jurisdiction beyond School Board property. (The Superintendent, the Superintendent's Cabinet, the Division of School Police Chief, the Region Superintendents and other senior staff members do not recommend extending the jurisdiction of the School Board police beyond School Board property.)

- b. If the jurisdiction is extended beyond School Board property, whether the School Board wishes to:
1. Define the term "concurrent jurisdiction" as "within 1,000 feet of school property" as presently stated in the Mutual Aid Agreements; or
 2. Revise the Mutual Aid Agreements to define the term "concurrent jurisdiction" as "roadways adjacent to or abutting school property or within plain view of school property."
 3. Limit school police activity to student-related routine law enforcement (e.g. assault, battery, student disturbances and assisting school administrators tending to student-related incidents off of school property) within that jurisdiction as defined. Revised
- c. Whether the School Board wishes to authorize the school police to issue traffic citations on roadways adjacent to or abutting school property.
- d. Whether the School Board wishes the school police to respond after normal school hours to burglar alarms on School Board property; this would require the hiring of an estimated 65 new police officers, increasing the size of the force to 202 at an initial cost of approximately \$4,731,090. This estimate reflects the cost of purchasing police vehicles, an expense that would not recur each year. Revised
- e. Whether the School Board wishes to include the provision of staffing hurricane shelters on School Board property as a service to be provided by the school police under the Mutual Aid Agreement. If so, an additional hourly overtime cost will be associated with this service.
- f. Whether there are any other considerations that the School Board wishes the Superintendent to address in the Mutual Aid Agreements and the standard operating procedures.

2. Direct the Superintendent to engage in collective bargaining sessions with the Teamsters Union to the extent required by the law and by the direction of the School Board as set forth above.
3. Direct the Superintendent to return to the School Board with amended Mutual Aid Agreements and standard operating procedures in accordance with the direction given by the School Board in response to the above issues.