Dr. Marta Pérez, Member

SUBJECT: PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE LANGUAGE IN THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD RULES SETTING DECORUM DURING BOARD MEETINGS

The official agenda of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, advises citizens that the public purpose is not served when citizens become disorderly or disrupt the meeting. Accordingly, pursuant to § 230.173, Fla. Stat., the Chair may order the removal from any School Board meeting of any person interfering with the expeditious or orderly process of the meeting, provided that the Chair has first issued a warning that continued interference with the orderly process of the meeting will result in removal.

I believe that it is in order for the School Board to adopt a rule incorporating the provisions of the above statute and further defining unacceptable behavior at School Board meetings. The rule should provide examples of actions which constitute interference with the expeditious or orderly process, as follows:

- 1) Any form of profanity or loud abusive comments.
- 2) Shouting comments from the audience.
- 3) Carrying of signs or placards which obstruct the view of other citizens.
- 4) Heckling or verbal outbursts in support of or in opposition to a speaker or his or her remarks.
- 5) Clapping and applauding which disrupts the meeting.
- Refusing to yield the podium when the Chair has advised the speaker that his/her time is up.
- 7) Comments which do not address the topic to which the speaker has signed up.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. MARTA PÉREZ:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to return with a rule incorporating the above considerations.