Dr. Marta Pérez, Member

SUBJECT: DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO REQUEST PROPOSALS AND COST ESTIMATES FOR A COMPREHENSIVE CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT AUDIT FOR THE M-DCPS SYSTEM AND FURNISH SAID REPORT TO THE BOARD ON THE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 2000

The M-DCPS system is committed to responsible service to our community and excellence in all aspects of education, including the accountability for the content, delivery and successful implementation of curriculum.

Given the decline in public confidence due to a perceived decline in student achievement throughout educational systems, it seems imperative that a board demonstrate to the community it serves that every step is taken to ensure quality and efficiency in the implementation of the schooling program.

A curriculum management audit is the most rigorous process available for an impartial look at a school systems curriculum, educational programs, and their relationship to decision making. Such an audit provides school boards, administrators, and the public with an objective study of how well the teaching and learning is being delivered to its clientele. The audit identifies what a system may do to improve the delivery in specific terms.

Such an audit of the Miami-Dade School System will constitute an invaluable tool to help us in our quest to provide our students with the very best education possible. With the information provided by a curriculum management audit, this board's decisions may be guided with added knowledge of appropriate performance standards. These include, among others: control of resources, programs and personnel, establishment of valid goals, internal consistency, use of results to adopt assessments to adjust, improve or terminate ineffective practices, and improved productivity.

I propose that this board direct the superintendent to request proposals and cost estimates tailored to the characteristics of our district and report these findings to the board during the first meeting of the new millenium, January 2000. I urge the board to approve this fact-finding initiative that is at the forefront of current educational practices for districts throughout 25 states in our nation and several foreign countries. This measure promotes trustworthiness in our continued quest for excellence in education.

ACTION PROPOSED BY DR. MARTA PEREZ

That The Miami-Dade County School Board direct the superintendent to request proposals and cost estimates for a comprehensive curriculum management audit for the M-DCPS system and furnish said report to the board by the board meeting scheduled for January 2000.