

G. Holmes Braddock, Member

SUBJECT: EACH YEAR THE SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR SHALL DELIVER AN ANNUAL STATE OF THE SCHOOL BOARD ADDRESS

On one occasion in recent years, the Miami-Dade County School Board Chair has delivered a "State of the School Board" address recapping the challenges and achievements of that school year and setting the tone for the next. In the spirit of accountability and in keeping with board discussion on this subject at the June 21, 2000 Board meeting, it is proposed that the Board revive this as an annual practice. It is recommended that this not be done during a Board meeting but at either an appropriate community meeting, such as a chamber of commerce meeting, or a special press conference.

While the Chair would be given discretion as to the content and format, it is suggested the address be made orally and that it cover such matters as student performance, budget, student and employee awards, school system needs and evidence of progress in meeting the Board's goals. It is also suggested that the address be delivered 1) soon after the end of each fiscal year; or 2) on the second Tuesday of each November, which coincides with the end of the term of the Chair and Vice Chair.

Each option has its advantages and disadvantages. Option 1 would allow for a review and forecast at the end of the budget year. Option 2 would allow the Chair to review the Board's accomplishments during his or her term in office.

Whichever option the Board chooses, it is hoped that it will aid in boosting public confidence by giving the Board an extra measure of accountability. Hopefully, this will help the Board fulfill its mission of providing Miami-Dade County's students the best education possible.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
G. HOLMES BRADDOCK:**

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

- 1) agree that each year the School Board Chair shall deliver an annual State of the School Board address;
- 2) determine a consistent time and venue for the address's delivery.

GHB:jjr